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ON THE RAVINE, NORTH OF LAKE CHAMBERLAIN.

BETHANY AND ITS HILLS

GLIMPSES OF THE TOWN OF BETHANY AS IT WAS BEFORE
THE RAILROADS AND THE FIRE FIEND ROBBED
IT OF ITS GLORY



By

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NEW HAVEN, CONN.

With Illustrations

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INTRODUCTORY.

During a brief sojourn in the town of Bethany in the summer of 1893, while exchanging reminiscences with friends, one suggested that I should make a note of some things of interest for the benefit of later generations. Knowing there were others more competent to do such a work, I never gave the subject a second thought until the year 1903.

Ten years had elapsed, and in the meantime, having compiled a work of the ancestry of our family, I have had occasion to make inquiries in that line, and have been often referred to some members of the family who had settled in the West and had through great expense and trouble procured the genealogy of their family. In every instance I would get a response so kindly and freely given, with frequently a postscript added, "If you have any additional information of old landmarks, etc., it would be fully appreciated," that, feeling under such great obligations, how could I reciprocate better than by collecting such items as far as able to do so?

In receiving scores of such letters one is reminded of the oft-repeated lines of Scott:

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said,
This is my own, my native land!"

"Land of my sires! what mortal hand
Can e'er untie the filial band
That knits me to thy rugged strand!"

In making an effort to procure views of some of the old homesteads we found that the homes of the first settlers (that had not

been destroyed by fire) had gone to decay, and nothing was left to mark the site unless occasionally an old cellar wall, with a remnant of a lilac or rose bush near, or an old well sweep tossing about an old oaken bucket that had hung in the well. Therefore the only alternative seems to be in preserving views of those houses built at a later date, several over a century old, and some of historic interest.

Carlyle said, "History is the essence of innumerable biographies."

It requires nice discrimination to give credit to the original author, as every generation adds material.

We quote from Barber and Rockey, and others, that which has been collected from the earliest records, with additions.

Montaigne said, "I gathered a *posie* of other men's flowers, and nothing mine own but the thread that binds them."

BETHANY AND ITS HILLS.

GLIMPSES OF THE TOWN OF BETHANY AS IT WAS BEFORE THE RAIL-ROADS AND THE FIRE FIEND HAD ROBBED IT OF ITS GLORY.

And he led them out as far as to Bethany and he lifted up his hands and blessed them.—St. Luke, chap. 24, 50th verse.

The town of Bethany was originally included within the boundary lines of the New Haven Colony.

"Few places in our country can furnish more interesting materials of its past history than New Haven. Its first settlers were a remarkable body.

Distinguished above most men by high moral principles, and an inflexible attachment to civil and religious liberty, they were indeed, of the best class of the nation from which they emigrated.

Many of them had moved in superior ranks of life, and some had held offices of great trust and responsibility in their native country.

New Haven is beautifully situated on an extensive plain, at the head of a harbor or bay, which extends inland four miles from Long Island Sound, and is nearly environed on all sides, except in this direction, by an amphitheater of hills."

Barber's Antiquities.

In 1661 Richard Sperry harbored the Regicides at his house three miles west of the center of New Haven, and Ralph Lines lived about a mile west on the hill, which, when that portion of the town of New Haven was separated and called Amity, placed these two families just over the line in Amity. As their families increased, and they were united to other families, they migrated to the "hills," where they were joined by families from the adjacent towns, Milford, Derby, Cheshire and Hamden.

No one was allowed in those days to hold a religious meeting or to give an exhortation in any meetings without consent of the proper authorities.

Previous to 1737 the inhabitants of the northwestern part of the town of New Haven were obliged to go ten or twelve miles to church on the Sabbath; at that date an Ecclesiastical Society was formed and it was decided that the dwelling house of Mr. Joseph Wilnot and the dwelling house of Mr. Joseph Perkins should be the places for the meetings for divine service. In 1738 it was decided to build a house for the worship of God. In August, 1740, the first meeting was held in the new meeting house. Rev. Gideon Mills, Mr. Whittlesey, and Nathan Birdsey were candidates for the ministry, but did not settle with them. On May 1, 1742, Rev. Benjamin Woodbridge received a call and was installed on the 3d of November, 1742.

Rules were soon adopted for seating the church; the dignity of a person was reckoned from the amount of his tax rate for the building of the meeting house.

Mr. Woodbridge held the office as pastor of the first church forty-three years, until his death, December 4, 1785. His long pastorate seemed to have been successful and harmonious.

In 1762 the north part of the parish was set off and constituted the parish of Bethany, and a new ecclesiastical society ordered.

A society committee was chosen, consisting of Timothy Peck, John White, Isaac Beecher, Daniel Tolles, and Joel Hotchkiss, "prominent, representative men." Meetings were held in the school-house which the Amity society had built in 1750, about a mile south of the present center. On the 12th of October, 1763, the Rev. Stephen Hawley was ordained its first pastor; in 1769-1770 a church was built on the hill a half mile south of the present church, and Mr. Hawley continued pastor until his decease—1804, a period of over forty years. His wife, Mary Bellamy, died 1791, leaving three children. In 1793 he married Mehitable, daughter of Deacon Joel Hotchkiss of Bethany. She removed in 1806 with her three children to New Haven, where she died in 1827. Two of her sons were graduates of Yale College.

"Rev. Stephen Hawley, Jr., A.M., was son of Stephen, son of Samuel, son of Joseph 1st. He was born in 1738, graduated at Yale 1759.

Tradition says his ordination was performed in the open air, near the fork of the roads below the residence of Mrs. Bradley.

The ordination sermon was delivered by that eminent divine, the Rev. Dr. Joseph Bellamy of Bethlehem, Conn., from 1 Corinthians xi, 2.

The records state that Mr. Hawley was very useful to his people during his ministry and was sincerely beloved by his



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

flock, who, in his visitations, as well as in his ministrations in the sanctuary, beheld his face as it had been the face of an angel, for he was conversant among them with gravity, prudence, modesty, humility, candor, wisdom and benevolence." (Hawley Record.)

There is a stone erected to his memory in the old cemetery in the southern part of the town. After the Episcopal Church

was built there was a cemetery laid out adjoining, on the east side, and another south of the Congregational Church; also one on the northeast side of the town, near the Carringtons, Todds and Tuttles, and later one adjoining the Methodist Church. There are some monuments and nice headstones in each of them.

In June, 1806, Rev. Isaac Jones, who had been ordained colleague of Mr. Hawley in June, 1804, was deposed, on account of some dissatisfaction in the society, and the result was that two independent societies were organized. Mr. Jones and his followers became Episcopalians. Timothy Peck, Timothy Ball, and Isaac Beecher were appointed committee.

Christ Church (Protestant Episcopal) was built in 1810, and the first ministers are not recorded. Before 1840 were Rev. Isaac Jones, Rev. A. Cornwall, 1813; Rev. William A. Curtis, 1813; Rev. J. H. Rouse, 1836; Rev. Oliver Hopson. Since 1840, Rev. Isaac Jones, 1842-6; F. B. Woodward, 1846-8; Dexter Potter, 1848-52; Henry Zell, 1853; John M. Guion, 1854-5; Henry Townsend, 1855; Charles J. Todd, 1856-8; James Adams, 1858-63; F. B. Woodward, 1864-8; H. S. Atwater, 1867-74; Martin Moody, 1875-80; C. W. Colton, 1881-7; Lewis F. Morris, 1887-9; Walter D. Humphrey, 1900; Lewis F. Morris, at present date (1904).

In 1836 there were one hundred and twenty-six families; prominent among them were Andrew Beach, Beri E. Beecher, William Burnham, Edward Buckingham, Hezekiah Brown, Dr. Jehiel Castle, Russell Chatfield, Henry A. Carrington, Darius Driver, Jesse A. Doolittle, Charles French, Harry French, Asaph French, Eber Hotchkiss, George Hotchkiss, Harley Hotchkiss, Archibald Perkins, A. A. Perkins, Guy Perkins, Abel Prince, Edwin Pardee, Levi M. Marks, Ezra Sperry, Enos Sperry, Hezekiah Thomas, Seymour Tuttle, Charles S. Tuttle and Henry A. Smith.

The church has a supporting fund of \$4,500; bequeathed by Anson Perkins, \$2,000; Dwight E. Todd, \$1,000; Leonard Todd, \$500; Juliana L. Bradley, \$500, and Hannah Beecher, \$500.

In 1875 the church was thoroughly repaired, at a cost of \$2,000.

In 1885 a pipe organ was purchased, costing \$1,000.

The Congregational society was reorganized 1809. A fund, which had been started in 1673, was later raised. Deacon Isaac Johnson left a legacy. John Thomas was pledged for \$700, Elihu Sanford for \$250, and other subscribers for smaller amounts, until by subscriptions and bequests, in 1890, it amounted to \$8,000.

In 1810 the Rev. Nathan Huntington was installed pastor and continued until 1823. In 1824 the Rev. Abraham Alling,



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

followed by Rev. Ephraim Swift; 1832-1834, Rev. Jarius Wilcox; 1834-36, John B. Kendall; 1840, Samuel Clark; 1843, D. B. Butts; 1849, F. Harrison; 1855, E. W. Robinson, and subsequently, John Churchill, William N. Belden, Ira Smith, Augustus Smith, C. Bruce, William S. Woodruff and students from the Divinity School of Yale College. A new church was built by this society in 1832-3, under the supervision of the committee, John Thomas, Silas Hotchkiss, Elihu Sanford, Lewis Hine, and Hiram Hotchkiss. It is nearly opposite the Episcopal church.

In 1866 it was remodeled at a cost of more than \$2,500, under the direction of Jason W. Bradley, William O. White and Justus Peck.

About 1820 a society was formed of the Methodist denomination which resulted in the building of a church in the eastern part of the town in 1841. The trustees in 1890 were: Jerome A. Downs, Allen Lounsbury, Thomas H. Brooks, Sherrill Brooks, D. B. Hoadley, William H. Lounsbury and Benajah



EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND RECTORY—CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

Tuttle. Among the first Methodists were Joel Andrews, George F. Peck and Philo Sanford.

Bethany was incorporated as a town in 1832. It was previously a parish in the town of Woodbridge. It is upwards of five miles in length and four in breadth.

The first town meeting was held at the Congregational meeting house June 11, 1832, and Reuben Judd was the moderator. The officers chosen were—town clerk, Hezekiah Thomas; selectmen, Reuben Judd, Andrew Beecher, Theophilus Smith, John Russell, Archibald A. Perkins; constables, Burr Perkins,

Leverett Thomas; grand jurors, Ebenezer Platt, Jesse Beecher, Libbins Dickerman, Abel Prince, Abram Hotchkiss; tythingmen, Leonard Todd, Miles Hitchcock, Grant Hitchcock, Joel Andrews, Eli Terrell, Abira Collins, Clark Hotchkiss, Major Lounsbury, Anan Atwater, Lewis Bishop, Leverett Benham, Eden Johnson; fence viewers, Isaac Hine, Timothy Lounsbury, Lysias Beecher, Abel Prince, Elihu Robinson.

The town clerks succeeding Hezekiah Thomas: in 1844-1845, Edwin Lines; 1846-9, Asa Woodward; 1850-4, Jason W. Bradley; 1855-79, Nathan Clark; 1880-1904, Edwin N. Clark.

Selectmen during that period were: Andrew Beecher, Harry French, Lewis Lines, Miles French, P. B. Hine, Enos Perkins, Darius Driver, Sidney Sperry, Justus Peck, Marcus W. Bradley, Edwin Buckingham, Henry E. Lounsbury, Samuel G. Davidson, E. O. Pardee, Jason W. Bradley, Theophilus Smith, Edwin Pardee, Horace Tolles, Anthony H. Stoddard, Abel Prince, Leverett Shares, Guy Perkins, Dennis Beecher, Robert Clark, D. N. Clark, Samuel R. Woodward, Charles G. Perkins, David Carrington, Jasper B. Todd.

In 1854 Jason W. Bradley was the first judge of probate; in 1856 Andrew Beecher; in 1863 Nathan Clark, who was also commissioner of the Superior Court.

According to the census of 1830 the population of Bethany was 1,049, Woodbridge 1,000, and New Haven 10,698. In 1900 Bethany was 517, Woodbridge 852, New Haven 108,027.

There is not much encouragement in writing of a town that is retrograding, but it still has its *hills*; and if the life of the town has been ebbing towards the cities and manufacturing towns, as the waves of the sea have their daily and nightly ebb and flow, so the tide seems turning in a wave of enthusiasm, reaching out to the *hills*, "the everlasting hills."

Where the atmosphere
So bracing and clear,

will prove a "balm of Gilead" to the overtaxed brain and body, no shriek of a locomotive to tax the nerves, and a voice in every breeze seems to say, "Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest."

The New Haven Water Company is developing mineral springs, and clearing up the ravines with surprising results.

It is estimated by the tax list that the company owns two thousand acres at least of the town.

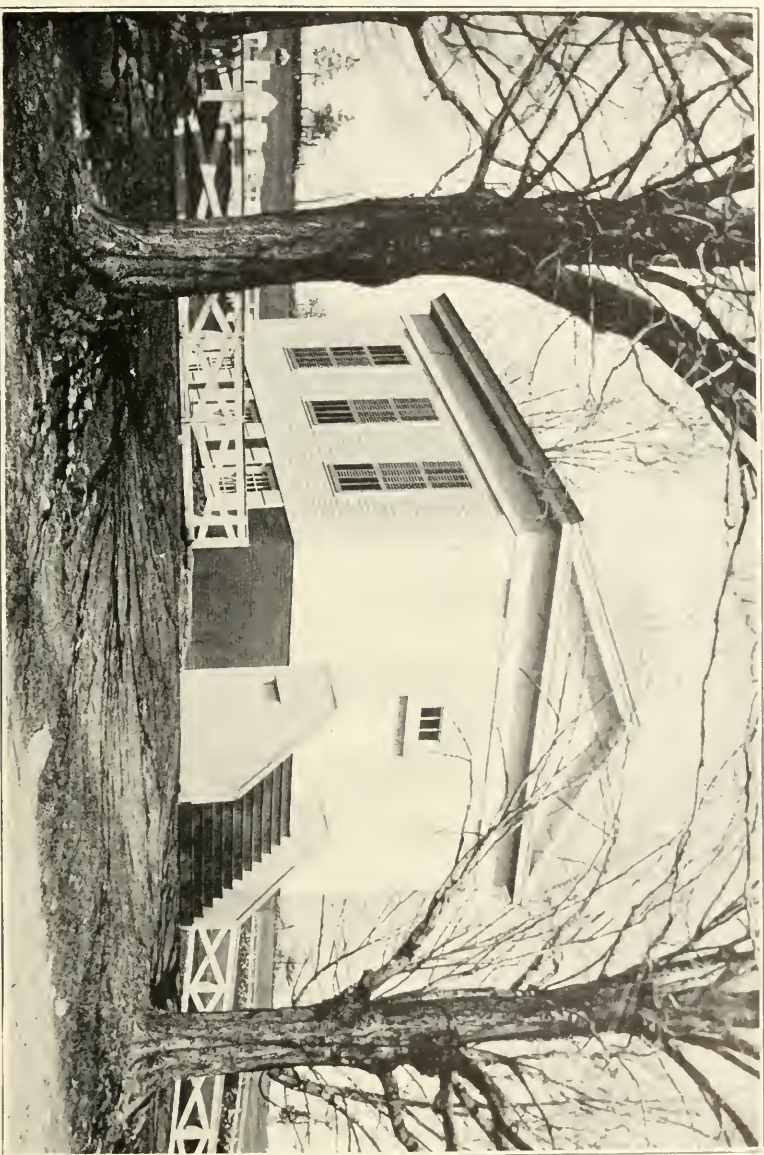
The first house over the division line between Woodbridge and Bethany on the turnpike was Enos Sperry's, and east was William Burnham's, the Goodyear house, which was large, with a ball room.

During an interview with the late Mr. Edward Heaton of New Haven, whose mother was Elizabeth Goodyear, daughter of Joel, who was son of Theophilus, of Revolutionary fame, a descendant of Stephen Goodyear, the first Deputy Governor of the New Haven colony, he said that his mother, in her old age, expressed a desire to visit the old homestead in Woodbridge (now Bethany) and purchase it, perhaps. Accordingly they drove out, and, to her great disappointment, found that it had been destroyed by fire, a portion of the cellar filled in and a house of a different style built over the remaining portion. It was then owned by William Burnham, and is now (1904) owned and occupied by his daughter, Mrs. Woodruff.

David Burnham came from England, and settled in East Haven, and later in Bethany. He married Rachel Tuttle; their children were: James, William and Martha. William, born June 11, 1795, and died July 29, 1882, married Harriet, daughter of Ami Hoadley; their children were: Adeline, David Alonzo, Emeline, Martha, Margaret and Sarah J. Margaret married George L. Woodruff, son of Merritt; their children are: Mary S., married Charles E. Ball; Georgiana L., married Ellis Warner.

Following the boundary line to the West Rock ridge overlooking Wintergreen Lake, and continuing north to a crossroad from Bethany to Mt. Carmel, there is fine cultivated land, where the Dickermans and Warners from Hamden, the Gaylords, of Huguenot descent, from Cheshire, and the Doolittles, descendants of Abraham (who was sheriff of New Haven County in 1644), from Wallingford, having high aspirations, made homes for their families.

Jesse and Reuben Doolittle attended the Episcopal Church in Bethany seventy years ago, although it was three or four miles distant, arriving always in time for morning service, and the numerous little Doolittles with sparkling eyes and rosy cheeks, invigorated by the early morning ride over the hills. Allen



THE METHODIST CHURCH.

Doolittle resided just over the Hamden line, although his farm extends in Bethany to the ravine, which is owned by the New Haven Water Company. There are orchards of fine fruit, meadows and everything requisite and necessary on a farm.

The old farmhouse, which is large, roomy, and neatly furnished, was occupied by ten school teachers from the city during a part of their summer vacation a year ago by invitation from the owner, Mrs. Beardsley, of New Haven, a granddaughter of the late Allen Doolittle. During the past summer several parties have recuperated there, and report in glowing colors the benefit derived from the mountain air, pure water, and berries in abundance, free as the air. Everyone cannot summer in Litchfield or the Adirondacks, and why should they, when there are locations so accessible to the city, so elevated and charmingly delightful? The description of one of these mountain homes must suffice, and if anyone is interested they should investigate, and follow the ridge a mile or two, until they reach the summit, where it is said Bethany, Hamden and Cheshire unite. It is called on the United States topographical map Mt. Sanford, and is from 900 to 1,000 feet high.

MT. SANFORD.

Just before the late Civil War the United States coast surveyors who were sent out by the Government were stationed at this point as the highest in the State within the same distance of the coast. General and Mrs. McLellan were with the party of surveyors, with their attendants and families. They used a theodolite which required from four to six men to operate. Sight could be taken with this instrument a hundred miles or more.

Parties of equestrians and pedestrians were attracted thither during their encampment. The view with the naked eye is magnificently grand on the east, overlooking the beautiful vale of Cheshire with its gentle undulation, dotted here and there with farm houses, and the church spires locate the centre. The purple, blue and gray in the perspective, crowned with the "Hanging Hills" of Meriden, is worth a long journey to see. Owing to a queer freak of nature there is a deep cut through

the mountain at this point sufficiently wide for a road, which, in descending from Bethany, is exceedingly romantic and picturesque. In some places there is barely room for two teams to pass each other, when one suddenly emerges from the wilderness of the dark ravine to view a broad panorama of landscape spread out before them, and in spring and autumn can be heard the weird music of a cataract which, in leaping from the mountain's crest over precipitous ledges, dashing, rushing, foaming down through rock and glen, is called "Roaring Brook," a place where poets and artists linger in their sentimental reveries.

To return to the road's level from Cheshire to Bethany, Amasa Brooks, with sons Sherrill and Amasa, resided, and on the corner where the roads cross was Isaac Brooks, whose son Richard married Laura Baldwin, whose sons were the enterprising hat, cap and fur dealers in Chapel Street, New Haven. Isaac Brooks married a sister of Andrew Smith of Prospect. Their children, Mary, Sarah, Elizabeth, and Cynthia, all found homes in other towns and are all deceased.

On the road leading north was Benoni and Jesse Perkins, whose descendants removed to Waterbury. Turning the corner at the Stephen Bradley house was Ransom Jerald's, who married Alma (daughter of Isaac Judd, called the old schoolmaster). Their children settled in Wallingford and were quite prominent. Bennett died recently, aged 86.

Near by was the commodious residence of Joseph Bradley, who married Nancy Baldwin of Woodbridge, and it is said that of their ten children not a descendant is remaining in town. The house passed into other hands, and later was burned to the ground. Continuing on was the house of "Johnny Gid" Sanford, son of Gideon. His sister Patty was a spinster, and a spinner by vocation, being engaged by families several weeks at a time, where from early morn to dewy eve her lithe figure tripped lightly to and fro, deftly handling the airy rolls white as snow with one hand, while the other kept the wheel in motion. Her voice was something remarkable. It was like an echo, and if it had been cultivated it might have astonished the world.

Near the boundary line was a tract of land called the Yale Field, being owned by Yale College, where the students were wont to assemble on holidays for athletic sports, etc.

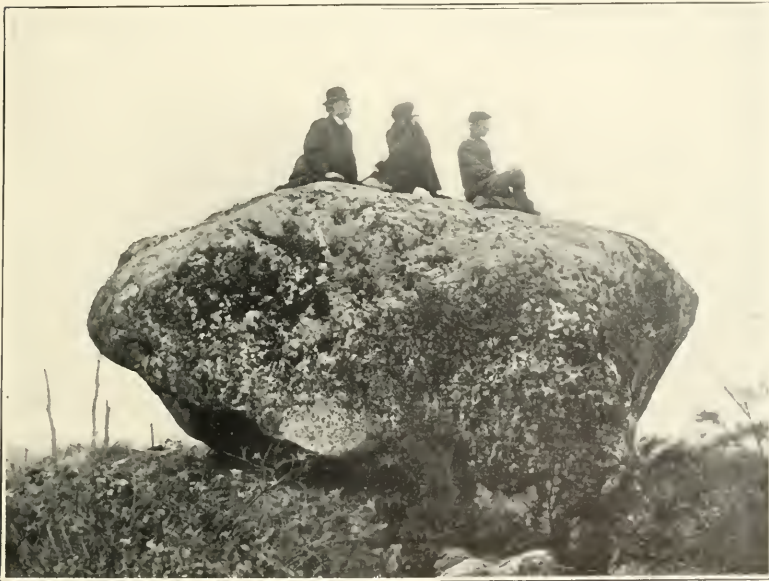


THE OLD HOME AND MILL OF EDSON SPERRY.

As the road meets the turnpike there is the old house and mill, nestled in the shadow of the Beacon. It was built by Isaac Hine and owned later by Edson Sperry, who conducted the carding of wool and dyeing and dressing of cloth in a very satisfactory manner. It is now owned by Mr. Twitchell.

BEACON HILL.

About fourteen miles from New Haven the main road to Waterbury passes by Beacon mountain, a rude ridge of almost



BEACON CAP, WEST VIEW.

naked rock stretching southwest; at this place is "Collins tavern," long known as an excellent public house, and the "Straitsville P. O." About half a mile south of Mr. Collins', the road passes through a narrow defile, formed by a gap in the mountain, and is barely sufficient in width for a road and a small but sprightly brook, which winds through the narrow passage. On both sides the cliffs are lofty, particularly

on the west—on the east, at a little distance from the road, they overhang in a threatening manner.—“The ridges of the Beacon mountain present fine geological and picturesque features, and are much more abrupt and grand than most of the mica slate regions of Connecticut.—*Barber's Hist. Col.*

Beacon Cap is a huge boulder on the highest point of the ridge on the mountain which divides Bethany from Naugatuck. It is about forty feet in circumference and twenty in height, and can be seen for many miles distant. It probably floated there



BEACON CAP, NORTH VIEW.

during the glacial period, and must have struck with great force to have broken off a portion. The view from the top is so fine that the church spires from several towns can be seen with the naked eye.

It was a place of rendezvous for picnic parties, formerly more than of late years, especially on holidays. The young men and maidens would have a merry time in ascending, sometimes shouting, “Oh, for a Pegasus to take us to the heights of Parnassus!”

"'Twas oft so steep the foot was fain
 Assistance from the hand to gain,
 So tangled oft that bursting through,
 Each hawthorn shed its showers of dew."

Arriving at the summit, seven hundred feet high, lunch was spread, garnished with fragrant trailing arbutus, and winter-green with its crimson berries, which "boon nature scattered free and wild."

Refreshed and exhilarated, declamations followed, which, if they "chanced to fall below Demosthenes, or Cicero," they were not viewed with a critic's eye, but received applause which made the welkin ring, when

With songs and adieus
 They took their last views,

as the low descending sun hastened their departure.

There is a cross road at the base of the mountain, weird and solitary, which every lover of ferns, mosses and lycopodiums of the cryptogaminous family should visit on a sunny morning of a summer's day.

Would it be a great stretch of imagination to fancy that a line of electric cars would run from Waterbury to New Haven through Bethany, within a decade, and a branch wind around the Beacon, to its summit, the "Capstone," where pleasure seekers with the aid of an "Eiffel tower" and a Lick telescope could see the great ships on the Atlantic ocean.

Or, if this sounds rather inflated, there is just as good foundation for a building aside the "Cap" as there was on Mt. Tom, or Mt. Holyoke, Mass., and with as good telescopes as they have, what more could be desired?

Many persons say they have never been on the "Cap," but have seen it at a distance; now, if it is visible for miles around, and a guide to travelers by daylight, what would be the effect of a building illuminated at night; would it not be a "Beacon of light" (if not to mariners at sea) to all benighted travelers in that section of the country?

The above was written October 26, 1904, and October 27, the *Morning Journal and Courier* had an article of two columns, headed: Hill Climbing; Over the Alps by Motor Car: Impres-

sions and Incidents of a Long Mountain Trip. "The motor car has conquered the Alps."

November 1, 1904, was the following: "Baldwin's Air Ship makes Fine Flight: Remarkable Performance at the World's Fair.

St. Louis, Oct. 31.—After circling in every direction at a height of 2,000 feet above the Cascades, in sight of thousands of cheering spectators on the World's fair grounds." What next?

Near this crossroad was the residence of Timothy Lounsbury, one of the trio, with Alling Carrington, and Esquire John Thomas, who vied with each other in paying the largest town tax. Mr. Lounsbury must have been very enterprising to have had courage to build so fine a house with a large ball-room in such a lonely dell, between the Beacon and Lebanon Hill. He had several children.—Dr. John settled in Oxford and practiced medicine until quite aged. One incident occurred which was characteristic of the family. One of his daughters having engaged to attend a ball at a distance, and her escort not arriving at the appointed time, she seated herself on the horse-block at the gate, when a neighbor passing by, and seeing her attitude, expressed his surprise. She quickly retorted: "It is better to be ready and not go, than to go and not be ready." When her escort arrived astride a fleet horse she was ready to mount the pillion behind him without delay. It might have been Eunice, who married Vincent Brown. She lost her only daughter, Emerett, when on the eve of marriage. She lived a widow several years, and would often remark that "there was as good fish in the sea as ever was caught," and late in life she married a Mr. Fisher and lived to be nearly a centenarian.

From this point can be seen the old residence of Russell Chatfield, high up on the road which leads across Lebanon Hill to the cemetery by the Carrington farm. He was a mason by trade, very thorough and efficient. He married ——Terrell. Children: Mary, married Beri Beecher. She is still active and cheerful. Her ninetieth birthday will occur in May, 1905; Ruth, married Alonzo Warner; Sarah Ann, married Guy Beecher; Pamela, married Samuel Todd of Hamden, and Amanda, married in 1852 Eli H. Wakelee of Ansonia. Wakelee Avenue received its name from the family.

In 1871 the inhabitants of the west side of the town petitioned the Legislature for a separation, which included about a third of the town, and, although they met with most strenuous objections, they were successful, and that portion of the town was christened Beacon Falls.

It included prominent men, some large tax payers, Sheldon Clark, Noyes Wheeler, George Osborn, the Buckinghams,



THE TREAT CLARK HOUSE.

Andrew T. Hotchkiss, whose mother was a Buckingham, and Pulaski Chatfield, whose son John was a Colonel in the late Civil war, and died in the service; another son, Henry, married a sister of Franklin Farrel, the Ansonia millionaire. In that locality was Adonijah French, and others whom it is impossible to name. Mr. Dwight Clark, the noted cattle dealer, has a fine residence on the extreme west side and nearby was the Terrell homestead, now in ruins, Clark Hotchkiss, Daniel Russell, Edwin Pardee, Abel Prince, Carrington's and Nettleton's, and others. Not being familiar with that side of the town

must account for the brevity, although the records show that they were very worthy citizens.

After swinging around the circle, we arrive at the old road, once called the shunpike on account of shunning the toll gate at Sperry's farms.

The old Daniel Thomas house has disappeared, and the next was owned by Charles Thomas; a short distance north is the

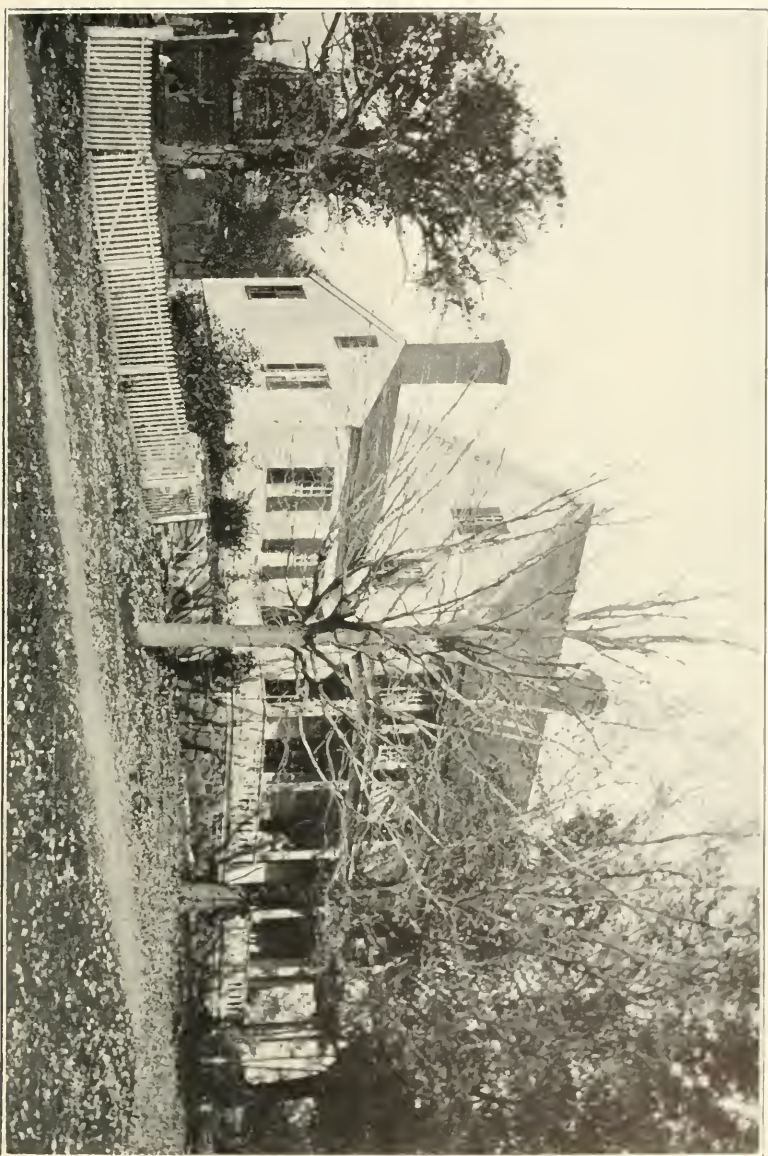


MRS. SARAH (SPERRY) PECK.

Aged 92.

house built for Judge Jason W. Bradley in 1836, by Grant Hitchcock and Charles French, who built several houses about that date on the same plan; they were called a half house, which omitted one of the large square parlors on either side of the front door and hall.

Judge Bradley was quite a prominent man in the town. He married a sister of Col. Alvan Sperry; his only son lost his life in the Civil War. His daughter Althea married Dwight



JUDGE CLARK HOUSE.

Built by Peter Perkins in 1792.

Clark, a wealthy cattle dealer: their son has represented the town in the legislature.

The next house is Judge Clark's. The house was built by Peter Perkins in 1762: bought by Isaac Clark 1809. He married Esther, daughter of Deacon Joseph Treat, descended



THEODORE HOTCHKISS.

from Robert Treat, who was Lieutenant Governor of the State of Connecticut seventeen years, and Governor fifteen years. Isaac Clark, son of Isaac of Milford, was a descendant of George Clark, whose name is among the founders on the Memorial Bridge at Milford. He held the office of selectman for eight years in succession. His son Nathan was elected town clerk and treasurer of Bethany in 1855.

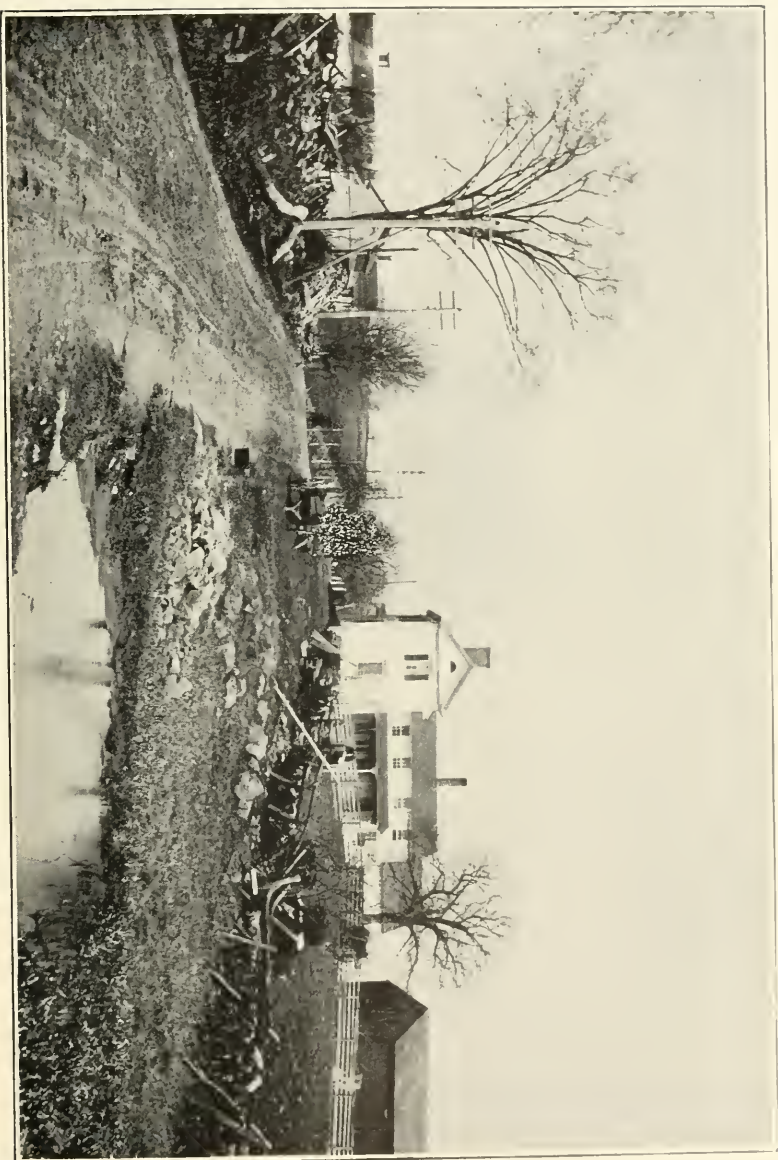
and continued to hold these offices until 1881. He was elected probate judge in 1862, and continued to hold the office until his decease. He was also postmaster of Bethany for eight years. He married Sarah L. Lounsbury in 1843. Their children are: Emma S., born 1844, and Edwin N., born 1851. Emma S. married Pearl P. Sperry. Their children are: Isidore S., Belle E., Pearl P. and Harold C. Edwin N. married Hannah Basham in 1874. Their children are: Eugene F., Walter E., Lena B., Ruby B. and Frank J.



MRS. LUCIA (SPERRY) HOTCHKISS.

Edwin N. succeeded his father as probate judge, town clerk and treasurer, and continues to the present date (1904).

Col. Alvan Sperry married Sarah Nettleton, daughter of Nathan. Children: ¹John, ²Sarah (married Frederick Peck; one son, Burr; Mrs. Peck is ninety-two years of age and remarkably well preserved, with good memory and hearing, bright and interesting in conversation); ³Edson (married Rosalinda, widow of Dr. Whiting; one son, Foster, whose son



THE COL. ALVAN SPERRY HOMESTEAD.

is a popular druggist in New Haven); ¹Nathan (married Lucretia Peck, daughter of George, Esq.); ²Fowler (married Jehersey Nettleton of Milford; their daughter married Sheriff Tomlinson); ⁴Lucia (married Theodore Hotchkiss; their daughter Fanny married Frank Platt, a popular florist in New Haven; daughter, Kate, remains at the homestead); ⁷Rebecca (married Cornelius Allen); ⁸Grace and ⁹Gracie, twins (Grace married Claudius Allen; their son is a prominent druggist in New Haven; Gracie married Capt. Bunce); ¹⁰Marian (married Edward Smith).

Col. Sperry was a carpenter by trade. However, in 1839 he and his sons, Nathan and Fowler, established the malleable iron business in Straitsville and continued until 1845, when their factory was burned, and they removed their business to New Haven, where they followed it successfully for many years.

The Sperry families are anxiously waiting for the "Sperry Genealogy" to be published, which has been in progress of compilation several years. There seemed to be an affinity between the Sperry and Lines families since the first settlers, for they have joined heart and hand so often as to be quite noticeable. Capt. Chillian Sperry settled in the north part of the town and married Julia Lines, while her sister Sarah married Capt. Jesse Beecher, and their daughter Emeline married Noyes Sperry. Ezra Sperry located near the center, and his son Ezra S. married Louisa Terrell, whose mother was Hannah Lines, daughter of Eber Lines, who resided a little west of the center. He had a remarkable memory, and "what Uncle Eber couldn't tell you wasn't worth knowing." His son Calvin had a son, Henry, whose son, Rev. Edwin S. Lines, D.D., was Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, New Haven, several years, and is now Bishop of Newark, N. J. He married Mary Louise, the only child of Cornelius S. and Eliza (Kimberly) Morehouse, of the firm of Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor of New Haven. His brother, Wales Lines, an extensive builder, is one of Meriden's most influential and respected citizens.

The Lines-Sperry clan is scattered far and wide. One, a lawyer and judge in San Francisco, Cal., writes: "My daughter, just 'graduated,' wishes to join the Colonial Dames. Is she eligible?" Another resides in Johannesburg, South Africa:

some are millionaires and others who are not are as good as gold could make them.

Elizur H. Sperry, son of Marvin and Lavinia (Gaylord) Sperry of Bethany, learned the mason's trade of Theodore Hotchkiss of New Haven, where he became a master builder, which business he managed so skillfully that he has been able to travel abroad and enjoy the fruit of his labors. He married ————. Children: Fannie, Mrs. Frederic Miner,

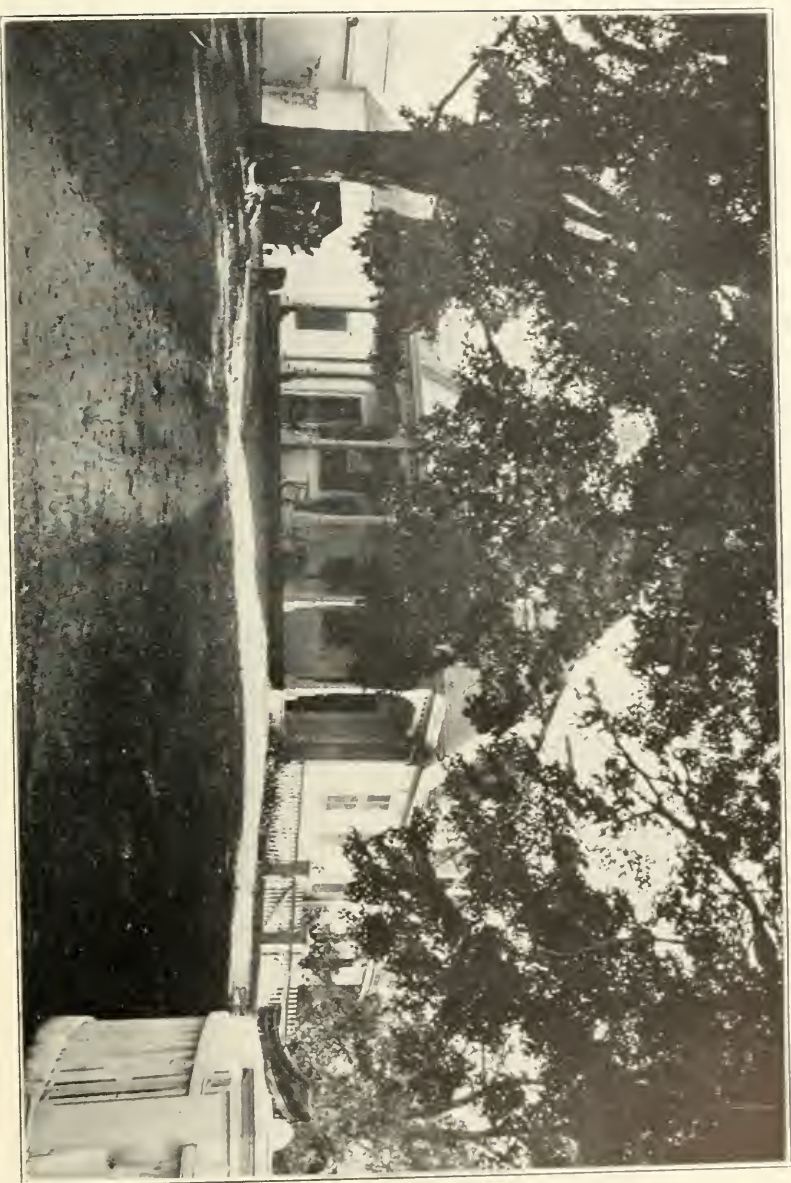


ELIZUR H. SPERRY

and Carolina D., who married James E. Cutler (Ph.D. Yale 1893) of Boulder, Colorado.

Lucius, son of Burton and Elizabeth (Perkins) Sperry of Bethany, married Miss Chatfield of Oxford. Children: two sons and daughter, Julia. He was also a popular mason builder in New Haven and highly esteemed by all that knew him for his genial ways and integrity.

Sidney Sperry married a daughter of Ebenezer Platt and lived a little south of the churches. He had a blacksmith shop



THE OLD DARLING TAVERN, WOODBRIDGE.

opposite, now gone, and the old house is a ruin. His widow kept the postoffice several years. It is now near by, kept by Mrs. Hitchcock. There was a high school taught there in 1840 by Rev. Samuel Clark, assisted by his daughters.

On the road below the schoolhouse which turns to the left were several Sperry families, Alonzo, Mark, Garry, and Allen, all worthy citizens. Nearly all of their property is said to be owned by the New Haven Water Company and known as Lake Chamberlain, which leads south through the Sperry ravine and intersects with Dawson Lake.

By permission of the *Journal and Courier* extracts from an article published in that paper a few years ago are given:

"A party of New Haveners, among whom was Congressman N. D. Sperry and his brother, Knight Sperry, sallied forth for a drive on the aforesaid hills in a canopied carriage to the music of the rhythmic hoof beats of the latter named gentleman's fine pair of steppers. Their old home was in Woodbridge. There they were born and reared, there the remains of the old homestead are, and every nook and turn in the road, every old house, and every new one, every old landmark, the old familiar highways and byways, the lanes and hedges, the copses, the thicket, the stones and running brooks, all had to them a familiar and unfailing interest as they passed abandoned mill sites; it set the Congressman to musing. One would think the agricultural glories of New England had all but departed to read the dismal pictures given in the public prints on this subject, the fact that there yet remain many fine and model farms being temporarily overlooked. And now for a personal reminiscence. Now we come to Sperry's farm. My ancestor, Richard Sperry, bought this farm from the noted Stephen Goodyear, who was Deputy Governor of Connecticut, way back in 1640, or thereabouts. The deed for the farm gave all the land between the two mountain ridges, which you see on the right and left respectively, and extending on the south to the river running through Westville and extending as far north as the good land goeth. Under such a blanket deed as this we can claim to the Pacific coast. But let me here state that for the peace of mind of occupants of this land, we do not propose to press the claim under any circumstances. And here, on the left, is the lane through which the British redcoats marched

when in quest of the regicides Whalley and Goffe; and Richard Sperry, who had many times fed and sheltered the regicides, saw the redcoats as they approached and Whalley and Goffe discreetly fled to the hill which you see over yonder, called Providence Hill.

And this turnpike we are riding over is the old Litchfield turnpike. It was a great highway once. The mails were carried over this road and the farmers, from up Waterbury way and beyond, brought their produce to market over this road. They stopped for the night either at Clark's hotel over there or Darling's, a little further on, both of which were very popular hostleries in their day. Now these hotels are no more. The railroads serve the farmers for transportation now if they have anything to transport at a distance. At the old Darling place Mr. Bishop now resides. It is yet a very fine place. Pardon a personal digression. You see lining the road that fine line of maples, and how thrifty they are; well, a few years ago I came up here and delivered a lecture before the Village Improvement Society. One thing I advocated was tree planting, and here, through the enterprise of the people, you see the result.

Over there was the home of Deacon French. He at one time set type for the *Journal and Courier*. The property is now owned by the New Haven Water Company. And there is the residence of Mr. Judge. Mrs. Judge has a camp-stool that did duty in Cromwell's army. Near this locality was a factory, where Mr. Peck, who was the father of the late Lawyer Lucius Peck of New Haven, made iron candlesticks. It is now no more.

Just in that hollow above the lake once stood a grist mill. It was a busy place in its day.

Ah! Here we pass the house of friend Doolittle, he of flying machine note. Some day he expects to fly through the air with the greatest of ease on the machine he has been so long at work on in his leisure hours.

Up there is the house where our esteemed and wealthy townsman, Joel A. Sperry, was born. Up there to the right was once a factory where the grandfather of the late Nelson Hotchkiss made hoes and rakes. Now it is all deserted. The party here paused to take a look down the long sweep of valley which lies between the ridges, the view including the splendid new lake



THE RESIDENCE OF S. GILBERT DAVIDSON.

of the New Haven Water Company, Dawson Lake, named in honor of our esteemed deceased townsman, the late Henry S. Dawson. And now, concluded Mr. Sperry, we come to a model farm, one of the model farms of Connecticut, that of our friend S. G. Davidson, who is one of Bethany's most honored and esteemed men. It is indeed a model of what thrift, good taste, enterprise, foresight and sagacity well employed can accomplish. With Mr. Davidson in charge, even a wilderness could be made to blossom like the rose.

Mr. Sperry and party were the guests of Mr. Davidson and of his estimable wife and son for an hour, after which the homeward journey was begun, returning through the route which passes the site of the Sperry homestead."

T. S. Gold, State Secretary of Agriculture, has said: "When agriculture asserts its demand for educated men, then we shall have an education for the farm equal in breadth to that of any other calling, and then will end the cry, 'Why do the boys leave the farm?'"

The prospects are that the work of the Yale Forestry School will be productive of reclaiming much waste land and its influence will be widespread.

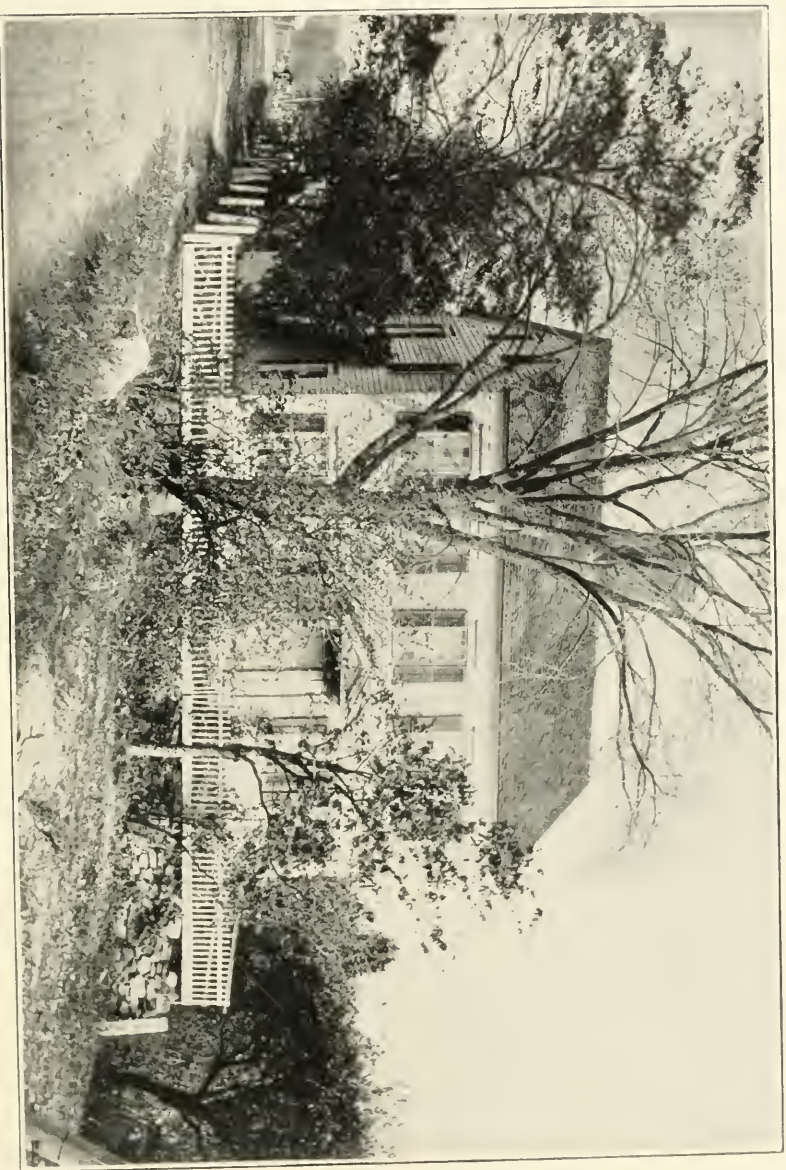
The next generation may see in place of shrub oaks, white birches and alders, groves of nut trees of various kinds and sugar maples, the fine forests cleared of underbrush, so unsightly,—when a drive through Woodbridge and Bethany, the suburbs of the "City of Elms," will be as beautiful as a drive through East Rock Park is now (1904). Why not?

If every farmer would plant an acre of hickory nuts he would not be obliged to guard with a shot-gun one solitary tree which produced a choice nut with shell so thin that a child could crack it with its teeth, and meat so fat and nutty, delicious and nutritious.

The papers state that Mr. Frederick Shaff of Pennsylvania owns a chestnut orchard of three hundred acres, in which are planted seventy thousand chestnut trees.

BARBER'S HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS OF CONNECTICUT, 1838.

On the night following the 14th of March, 1780, the house of Captain Ebenezer Dayton, then residing in this place, was broken into and robbed by seven men, who were Tories and headed by a British officer from Long Island. Mr. Dayton's was situated nearly opposite where the first meeting-house in Bethany was erected, about half a mile south of the present Congregational church and about ten miles northwest of New Haven. The particulars of this robbery were obtained from the Rev. Mr. Dayton, son of Captain Dayton above mentioned. Mr. Dayton, who belonged to Long Island, was, on account of his attachment to the American cause, obliged to leave the Island and bring his effects with him to Bethany. A number of men, some of his neighbors, were obliged to leave for the same cause, and brought a considerable quantity of money with them, and for a while resided in Mr. Dayton's house. With these facts the robbers appear to have become acquainted. At the time of the robbery Mr. Dayton was absent on business at Boston, and the men who had been staying in the house had left the day before, so that there was no one in the house but his wife, Mrs. Phoebe Dayton, three small children and two servants, colored children. About midnight, while they were all asleep, the window in the bedroom where Mrs. Dayton was sleeping was burst in; seven armed men rushed in, passed through the room, and immediately rushed into the chambers, expecting to find the men who had left the day before. While they were upstairs Mrs. Dayton went to the front part of the house, raised the window, and endeavored to alarm the neighbors. Mr. Hawley, the minister of the parish, and Dr. Hooker, the physician of the place, both lived within twenty rods distance. Both had lights in their houses at the time, and both heard the alarm, but did not know from whence it proceeded. The robbers, hearing Mrs. Dayton, came down, and tearing a sheet into strips, tied her hands behind her, made her sit in a chair and placed her infant (six months old) in her lap, while one of the robbers, placing the muzzle of his gun near her head, kept her in this position for about two hours, while the house was thoroughly ransacked from top to bottom.



THE ELIHU SANFORD PLACE.
Where the Dayton Robbery was committed in 1780.

They found four hundred and fifty pounds in gold and silver which belonged to Mr. Dayton, besides other valuable articles. What they could not conveniently carry off they wantonly destroyed, breaking in pieces all the crockery, furniture, etc. The whole amount of property carried off and destroyed, including notes, bonds, etc., amounted to five thousand dollars. The robbers left the house about two o'clock and went to a place in Middlebury called Gunntown, where they were secreted in a cellar by a family who were friendly to the British cause. While they were on their way to Gunntown they met a young man by the name of Chauncey Judd of Waterbury on a bridge, who had been to see a young lady home from a quilting party. Fearing he might discover them, they took him along with them. They were secreted in several different places, sometimes in houses and at others in a barn at Oxford. From thence to Stratford, where they took a whale boat and crossed over to Long Island. The people at Derby having received information of their passing through that place, two whale boats and crews commanded by Captain William Clark and Captain James Harvey pursued them to the island, and were fortunate enough to catch all but one, just within the British lines. They were brought back, tried, condemned, and sent to Newgate. They, however, broke prison, and finally fled to Nova Scotia.

Extracts from the book published in 1874, "Chauncey Judd, or the Stolen Boy":

"Captain Dayton's residence was on the eastern side of the meeting-house Green. At a later period it became the abode of Colonel Elihu Sanford, the father of Elihu and Harvey Sanford, Esqs., long known as among the most respectable citizens of New Haven.

On the other sides of the Green were the houses of the pastor, Rev. Mr. Hawley, and the physician, Dr. Hezekiah Hooker."

As the historical part of the story has been recorded, we will only quote some incidents which Rev. Israel P. Warren, D.D., the author, says are in all essential respects strictly true, having been many times told to him by a near relative (his grandmother, Milly Judd), a sister of the "stolen boy," who had herself a personal knowledge of the facts, and died at the age of ninety-nine.

"One of the most thrilling incidents occurred when the robbers had become nearly exhausted with carrying their booty, and realizing that their captive was a dangerous burden, they decided to put him out of the way." An open spot was found among the bushes near where the stream made a deep pool of dark water flecked with foam from the waters above. Chauncey was dragged to the brink and bidden to fall upon his knees, while Graham, with a loaded musket, withdrew a short distance from him. "Young man," he said, "you must prepare to die! Say your prayers as quick as you can. We have no time to waste, but will give you ten minutes to do it in." The poor lad fell on his knees to beg for his life. He turned to the young men, whom he had met at huskings and merrymakings, and entreated them to save him. All seemed in vain. Graham stood immovable, with his watch held forth in his open hand, counting off the minutes as they passed.

"Three, four, five!" "God in heaven!" cried the boy frantically, "help me! Oh, mother, mother! Save me, save your boy!" "Seven, eight," said Graham, in unaltered tones. The agonizing cry of the lad sank into a low moan of despair. "Nine, ten, time's up!" exclaimed the captain, returning the watch to his pocket and raising the musket to his shoulder.

At that instant Henry Wooster sprang forward and clapped his hand over the muzzle of the gun.

"No, captain," said he, "don't fire; it's too bad."

"Get out of the way!" thundered the ruffian, "or I'll blow your hand off."

Almost at the same moment both Cady and Scott interposed, rushing in between him and Chauncey. Wooster seized the gun and raised the muzzle into the air. "You shan't kill him! You've got to shoot me first!" "And me!" "And me, too!" cried the others, and they planted themselves firmly as a screen before the kneeling figure of the youth.

Later on, while the fugitives were secreted in a cellar at the Wooster house in Derby, a well was discovered, and Graham wrung a reluctant assent from his companions that Chauncey should be shot and put into the well. His pleading cry of distress was heard by Mrs. Wooster overhead. She was a woman, nay, more, a mother. She hastened downstairs and threw herself between the victim and his murderers, who were just pre-



THE DR. CASTLE HOUSE.
On site of Rev. Stephen Hawley's.

paring to execute their purpose. "For shame!" she cried, "Are you men, or wolves, to kill a poor boy in this way? I tell you it shan't be done,—not in this house! Take your hands off him, captain!" The robbers submitted, but with an ill grace, cursing women that "couldn't mind their own business."

At this juncture a door from the room above opened, and a voice cried out, "I've come to tell you that you had better take care of yourselves. There is a party of men coming up the road yonder that I suspect are looking for you. There are Mr. Judd and two or three of his sons, Reuben and Daniel Williams, Sam Hickox, Jude Hoadley, and a dozen more. Some are on horseback and some afoot."

Among those on horseback were "Dr. Jesse Carrington and Mr. Isaac Hotchkiss from Bethany." It seems they eluded their pursuers, and when they thought themselves out of danger were captured at last, and the young captive restored to his family. Although his health was impaired and his hands, which were frozen, were crippled for life, the author states "he married Mabel Hotchkiss (daughter of Captain Gideon), in September, 1785, who died in 1799, after which he married again. He died February 21, 1823, at the age of fifty-three."

The Hezekiah Thomas Hotel is still standing, or the front part of it.

Mr. Thomas taught the district school at the center, after the town had built a schoolhouse midway between the old church and the new one. Mr. Thomas bought the old schoolhouse, which had been built by the Amity Parish in 1750. It was two stories in height. The second story was a Masonic hall. It was near the old church, and drawn across the hill by several yoke of oxen and placed so near the new church that one could hear the music in summer time.

He built a new front, Colonel Alvan Sperry being the builder. The old hall served as town hall and the first floor as a dining hall. He also kept the postoffice, which was an inducement for the churchgoers to congregate on Sunday, between the morning and evening services, to get their mail, and, as Rev. Israel P. Warren said:

"It is not to be wondered at that under the circumstances the gathering of all the people on the Sabbath for public worship

served, to a large extent, as the occasion for telling and hearing news, for the delivery of letters and messages and the interchange of those friendly greetings and courtesies which are so necessary to the very existence of society. If, as our old people tell us, there is a relative falling off in church attendance in modern times, the reason may in part be found in the greater facilities now enjoyed for intercommunication with the world."

Seventy years ago the postage on a letter from Connecticut to Ohio was twenty-five cents, paid by the receiver; now it is two cents, paid by the sender, and through the system of rural delivery it is left at one's own door daily in the country to all outside the mile limit (1904).

Postage stamps were first used in the United States in 1847.

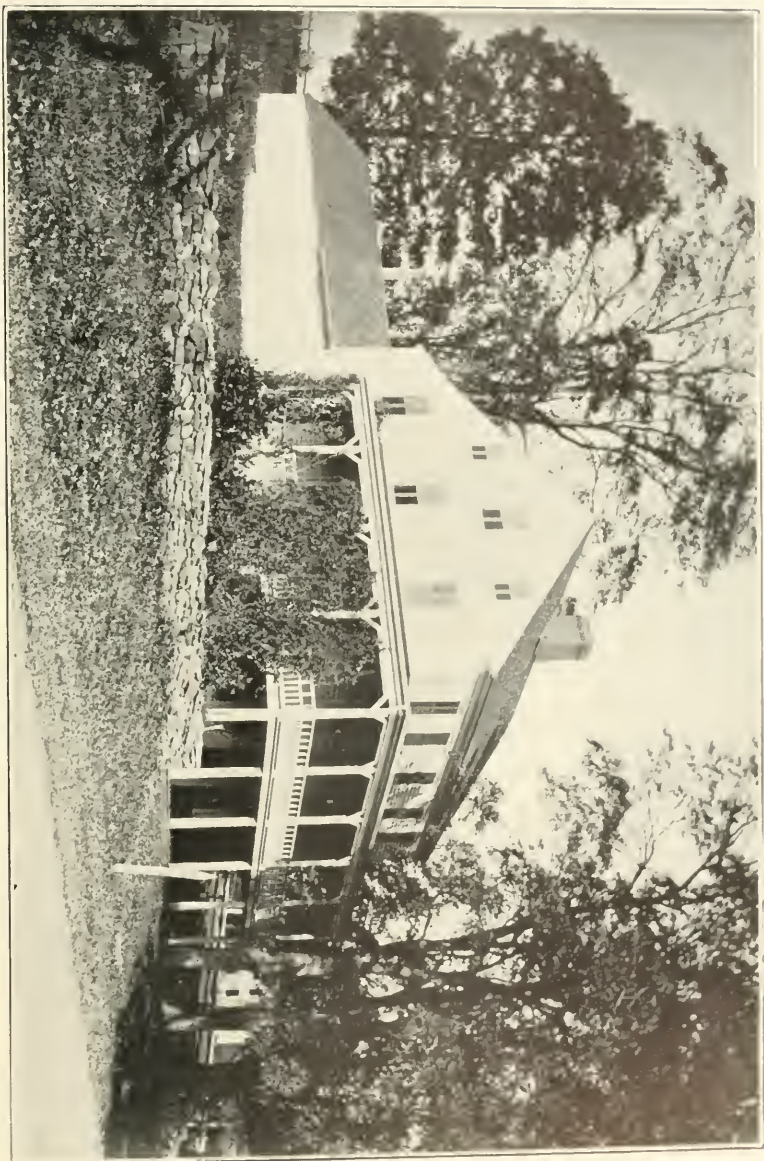
The postoffice system was first established in Connecticut in 1603, by special authority from the king. The mail went through the colony from Boston to New York "once every week." The postage from Boston to Hartford was od.

The first steamboat from New York to New Haven, March 21, 1815.

The first cars from New Haven to New York, December 29, 1848.

The first friction matches used, 1820.

Mr. Thomas had a shop where he manufactured pocketbooks, and as there were no sewing machines at that date he sent them out to be stitched, from which some of the farmer's wives and daughters picked up quite a little pin money. He married Margaret Stephens about 1820. Children: Sereno, married Miss Candee. He was conductor on the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad many years. Henry was a noted flutist. Ellen married John B. Hotchkiss, who was associated with J. B. Carrington of the *New Haven Journal and Courier* several years. Hezekiah studied for the ministry and died young. David, when a lad, was fond of climbing. A fall from a sprightly colt resulted in a broken arm, and as he preferred walking on the top of a fence, a treacherous rail caused another broken limb; and one evening while the Masons were in conclave in Masonic Hall he, with two other lads, climbed a tree where they could get a view into the hall, and their reports of riding the goat and other antics were too ludicrous to repeat. An old Mason said: "There was nothing to be seen worth see-



THE JESSE ATWATER HOUSE.



THE OLD HEZEKIAH THOMAS HOTEL.

ing, but if they could have heard they might have been edified." Later in life he learned the art of printing and became press agent for P. T. Barnum. While traveling with him he made balloon ascensions, and after Mr. Barnum's decease he settled in New Haven, where, by request, he lectured regarding his sensations in the clouds as an aeronaut. This was soon followed by his decease, which was greatly lamented by his friends, as he was a genial companion. His spirit, freed from its tenement of clay, could soar above the clouds, invisible to mortal eye. Fanny (Mrs. Howard) has been engaged in literary work many years. Celia married John Atwater of New Haven, and resides near Boston. She and Mrs. Howard are the only surviving children.

Mr. Perry owns and occupies the property now. He has removed the old hall from the rear of the house and built a town hall a few rods south. He married a daughter of Orrin and Mary (Castle) Wheeler.

One reminiscence of that old hall seems but yesterday. In April, 1840, the schools of the town united in giving an exhibition at Thomas's hall. There were guests from other towns, not a few from New Haven, including Yale students. When everything was in readiness for the evening performance a rap at the door of the ladies' dressing room was answered. Giles Smith was ushered in. His patrician face was ghastly white as he announced: "President Harrison is dead, and we cannot go on with this affair." After the excitement had somewhat subsided, the leading lady stepped forward and said: "Giles, who knows of this beside yourself?" "Wilson Clark and Lucius Peck." "Go and hush it up. We cannot prevent what has happened, *sad as it is*. The hall is full and it is time to raise the curtain." The exhibition was given with perfect success. How many persons remember it?

Rev. Isaac Jones married a sister of Hezekiah Thomas, and while pastor of the Episcopal Church for several years, being quite proud of his ancestor (Lieutenant Governor William Jones, who married Hannah Eaton, daughter of Governor Theophilus Eaton), he learned that several families in the town traced to the same line. He tried in vain to arouse some enthusiasm on the subject. He was ridiculed, however, and it is not known that more than one person preserved the family

record he so kindly offered. In later years, since so many patriotic societies have been organized, inquiries have been made of the old people in regard to "Parson Jones' Genealogy," which receives the reply, "It went into one ear and out of the other."

At that date the War of the Revolution was fresh in their minds, and it is said that the first settlers of the colony studiously avoided any allusion to their ancestors in England, although some of them did preserve their family coat-of-arms in order to enable their descendants to find their relatives, if they desired. They did not realize the value of the information they could have imparted so easily.

The Heraldry ordered by New Englanders and executed by Mr. Charles Camp of York street, New Haven, which was on exhibition at St. Louis, is perfectly bewildering, so gorgeous and artistic is it. There is so much travel abroad at the present day that some tourists would like to see the homes of their forefathers before they came to this "barren wilderness," whether they were humble cottages or lofty castles.

In some instances the family coat-of-arms is the only source which the professional genealogist has to identify the correct line they are in search of, to avoid any humiliating mistakes.

The Thomas and Tolles families from West Haven first settled on the level plateau west of the center, where the Bethany and Woodbridge "Fairs" were held alternately for several years, attracting crowds from the city and adjacent towns. How pleasant those gatherings were; an incentive to excel in their various productions, and giving an opportunity to exchange greetings with old friends whom they seldom met except on similar occasions. Why were they abandoned? Have all the leaders passed away and left Danbury to take the cake? At a county fair held in New Haven over sixty years ago Bethany alone furnished one hundred and twenty-five yoke of oxen, and now the farm work is mostly done by horses, and there is said to be only a few yoke of oxen in the town.

Daniel³ Tolles, son of Henry² and Dorothy Thomas, daughter of Daniel³, John², John¹. Daniel³ married Thankful Smith, daughter of Captain Samuel³, Lieutenant Samuel², George¹. Samuel² married Obedience, daughter of Captain George Lamberton of the "Phantom Ship." Children of Daniel³ and Thankful were: Lazarus⁴ married Sibyl Bellamy, daughter of



THE BETTY ANN POST OFFICE.

Samuel³, Matthew², Matthew¹; Daniel¹ married Mary Hine, daughter of Joel; Lamberton⁴ married Abigail, daughter of Samuel and Ruth Briscoe; Jared¹ was a soldier of the Revolution; Abraham¹ married Elizabeth ———; their daughter Lucy married Lysias Beecher, son of Captain David and Hannah (Perkins) Beecher; children: David, Abraham (married Caroline, daughter of Philo Lewis of Naugatuck), Chauncey (married Margaret Todd, daughter of Leonard), Hannah (married Charles Thomas), Harriet (married Leverett Thomas), Elizabeth (married Theophilus Smith, who married her sister Eliza for second wife), Mary (married Burton Mallory of New Haven), Laura (married Mr. Hayes, and (2) Mr. Comer of Alabama).

Thankful⁴ married Daniel Sanford; Desire⁴ married Abraham Beecher; Mary⁴ married Noah Thomas.

Daniel⁵. Children: Horace⁶ married Polly, daughter of Jesse and Sarah (Lines) Beecher; Aurelia married Lucien Baldwin; Samantha married Henry Carrington; Mary married Milo Beecher; Eliza married Wales Perkins; Curtiss married ———; Isaac⁶ married Maria Buckingham. He was a fine scholar. He taught a high school in Thomas Hall, Bethany, also in other towns, which were well patronized. Later he was in the mercantile business. His son, Colonel Fremont W. (one of eight children) was a member of the Legislature from Naugatuck in 1880 and, like his father, is an active business man, and has held several of the highest offices of the town.

William French (says the History of Derby) came in the Defence from London in 1635 with his wife Elizabeth, his son Francis, and five other children. William French was one of the original settlers of the beautiful town of Billerica, where he died, aged seventy-four, having had ten children born in America. He was the author of the famous tract, "Strength Out of Weakness," published in London and reprinted by the Boston Historical Society. He held many offices of trust. His son Francis came to Milford in 1650, settled in 1654, being the third or fourth family in the plantation. He married Lydia Bunnell of Milford. They had nine children: Francis, Jr., married Anna Bowers. He was high sheriff of the town. Their son Israel married Sarah Loveland. Their son David, born January 30, 1742, married Lois Lines of Bethany, where he removed.

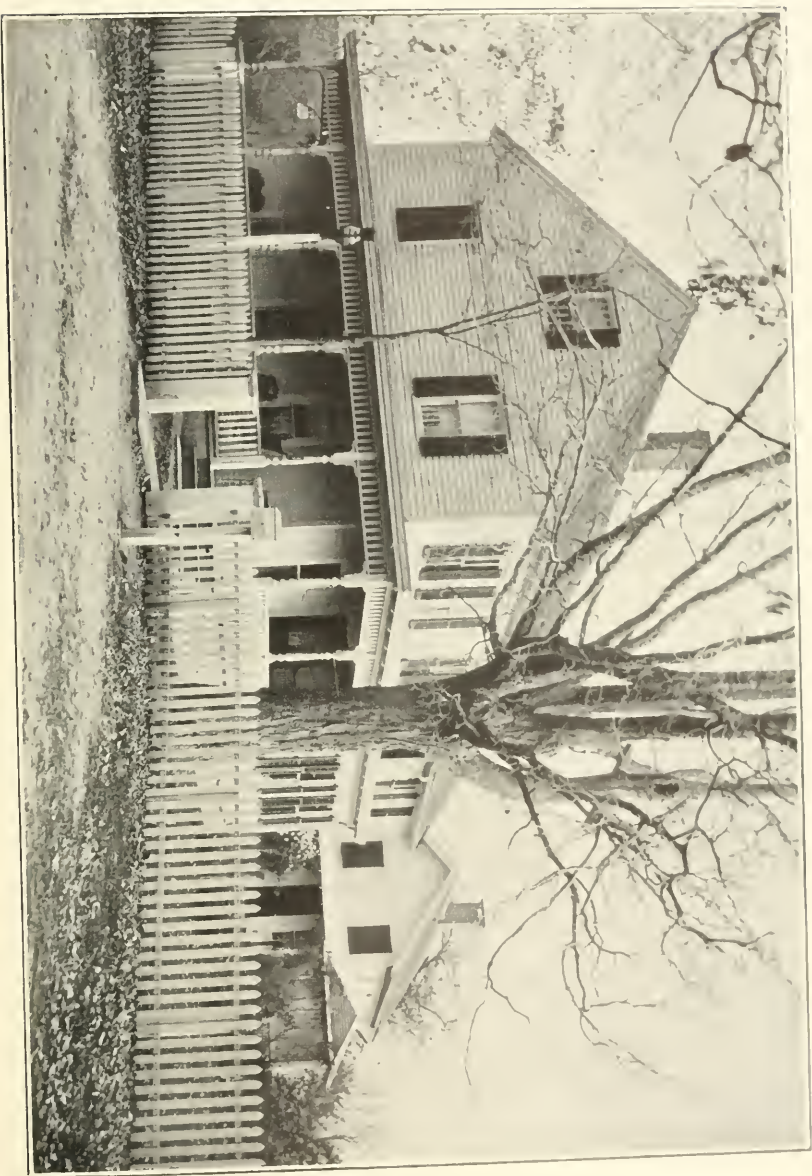
Their children were: David, Adonijah, Luther (of Beacon Hill), Asaph, Harry, Sarah, Hannah, Dorcas, Hepsibah, Lydia, Lois.

Adonijah was a justice of the peace and representative of Woodbridge (now Bethany). David French, Esq., son of Israel, was a patriot of the Revolution, going to Boston after the battle of Bunker Hill to assist in resisting the encroachments of despotism. He was trial justice many years. He represented the town in the General Assembly twenty successive years. He was for many years a deacon of the First Congregational Church of Bethany, under the Rev. Stephen Hawley. He commanded much respect and influence as a public speaker, having a strong voice and expressing his opinions with frankness, energy and confidence. He died August 4, 1821, aged eighty.

Asaph married a sister of Captain Jesse Beecher, had a large family, removed to Prospect, where he died, and left descendant a granddaughter, Mrs. Ford of Westville, now living, aged seventy-nine.

Harry remained at the homestead, about a mile west of the center, where he built a house which is in a good condition at this date. He was a man of power and stability. He married ————. Their only child, Jane, was a leader in society, like her father. While teaching school in Cheshire, she met Justus Peck, whom she married. He was born in 1809. He was son of Asa⁶, John⁵, Samuel⁴, John³, John², Deacon William Peck first settler. He was an active business man and ran the first boat on the Farmington canal. He removed to Bethany in 1843, after the decease of Mr. French, and occupied the homestead. He held prominent public offices, as his son Harry is doing at the present time.

Marietta married Mr. Francis and died young. Charlotte married Henry M. Bigelow of New Haven. After his decease she married Samuel R. Woodward, a relative of Rev. Frederic and Dr. Asa. He holds the highest office of the town. Children are: Daisy E., Florence E. and Sherman P. They reside at the homestead, which is one of the finest locations in the town, being elevated and level, with fine meadows, etc. Jack Frost lingers late outside. On the 26th of October, when the cosmos were black and ruined in the city, they were nodding



RESIDENCE OF SAMUEL R. WOODWARD.
Built by Harry French.

their gay blossoms gracefully from the Woodward lawns to the passers-by.

Rev. Frederic B. Woodward, M.D., came to Bethany in 1846 from Watertown and was pastor of Christ Church two years. After an absence of fourteen years he returned and remained four years. He was a superior man and greatly beloved. He had an interesting family. His daughter Emeline was soprano



HARRY FRENCH.

From an old Daguerreotype.

soloist in St. Paul's Church, New Haven, at one time Katherine married and died young. His only son, Frederic, went to Florida and had an orange grove. His brother, Dr. Asa, graduated at Yale in 1844, and in 1845 bought the Esquire John Thomas property on Lebanon Hill and built a house on the site of the one which was burned when Dr. Spencer lost his life. Dr. Woodward had an extensive practice, and died in 1881. His son Edward studied medicine and practiced in Bethany in 1861, afterwards settling in Bristol.

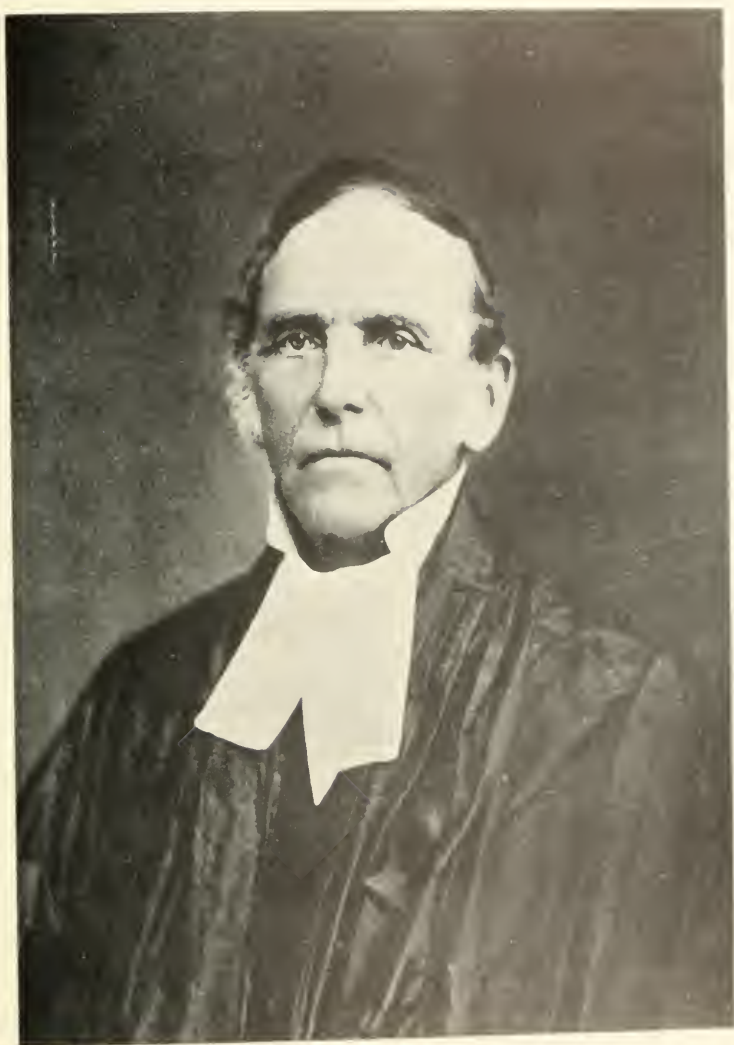
Dr. Asa built another house later, where he resided, while his son George occupied the other and managed the farm. He was an active man and missed especially in the Episcopal Church.

George Driver was born in Bethany and spent his school days there. In later years he has traveled across this continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific six times, has seen the snow-capped peaks of the great mountains, the great Salt Lake and the vast



MRS. JANE (FRENCH) PECK.

prairies, but he was never on "Beacon Cap" in his native town. He attempted the ascent once with a party of twelve, and when within a half mile they were driven back by an approaching thunder shower to find shelter in a farmhouse near. He says, however, that if he lives until spring he intends to make another effort to reach that romantic rock. If he succeeds probably he will be surprised to see the beauty of the "amphitheater" of the town, which he never before was able to appreciate. His father, Darius Driver, a quiet, well-informed, much respected farmer,



THE REV. FREDERIC B. WOODWARD, M.D.

lived all his life in the town until the age of ninety, when he would walk to the city, ten miles, not from necessity, but because he liked the exercise; he had rented his farm and his children had homes in the city. He lived to be nearly ninety-five. Does not that give evidence of a healthy climate? Scores have lived past the age of ninety in the town. Mrs. Leonard Todd was ninety-eight, and there was one centenarian, Mrs. Kane or Cain, who was one hundred and fifteen, and the neighbors said she seemed to enjoy a meal of corn meal mush or hasty pudding with as keen a relish as an epicure would "quail on toast." She finally withered and dropped off like an autumn leaf.

The Hotchkiss family were among the pioneers of the town of Bethany, descending from Samuel, who married Elizabeth Cloverly in 1663. Some of the name settled in Cheshire, and later went up through the mountain road which leads to the Litchfield turnpike. Solomon and Philo lived near the Prospect line, and others went higher still and settled on Prospect Hill. It is said that David Hotchkiss gave the name to the town, which was so appropriate. Tradition says also that there was an inn kept by a Mr. Hotchkiss in the old house which was standing seventy years ago at the corner of the crossroad, called the "pine tree corner."

Major Hotchkiss lived on the turnpike south of the Perkins tavern. Children: Harriet, Harlowe, Adna, and Emily, all went to other towns and the old house is in ruins.

Thaddeus located near the Methodist Church and had one son, Dr. Sterne Hotchkiss, whose name recalls an entertainment given at Theophilus Smith's hall nearly seventy years ago, when, a schoolgirl, we were permitted to sit in a quiet corner and gaze with admiration and awe upon the galaxy of beauty and intellect gathered there. Among them were Giles Smith, Wales Peck and Dr. Sterne Hotchkiss, the Smith and Beecher and Tuttle girls, and others too numerous to mention. Was ever a foreign court graced with more refinement and culture? Some of the ladies were graduates of Wilbraham and some of the gentlemen were graduates of Yale.

Hiram Hotchkiss, located near the center, was son of Silas⁴, Joseph¹, Isaac³, Joshua², Samuel¹. He married ————. Children: one daughter and three sons. Wales was a portrait painter in New Haven many years.

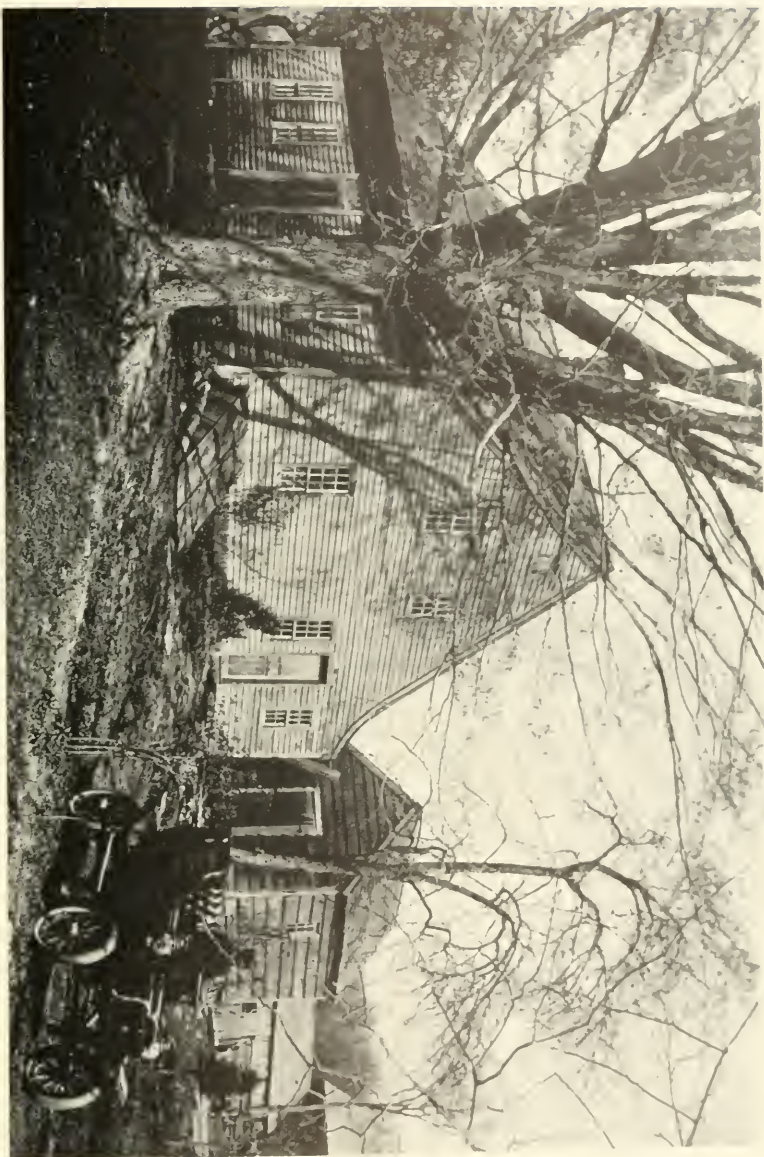
Clark Hotchkiss, born in Bethany in 1803, was son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Clark) Hotchkiss. He married Caroline A. Sperry. Children: Martha, Mary, Isaac, Sarah, Fanny, Julia, Anna and Arthur. Anna married Arian Rosha. Children: Clifton and Eugene. Mr. and Mrs. Hotchkiss were members of the Congregational Church sixty-two years.

Harvey and Eber Hotchkiss located on the west side of Lebanon Hill. Harvey married Sarah Alling. Children: Solomon, Sheldon, Beecher, Julius, Theodore, Harpin, Samantha, Sarah Finette and Margaret. Only one of that large and highly respected family remains in the town, a son of Harpin. There are many descendants in New Haven.

Eber Hotchkiss married Thirza Driver. Children: Dilazon, Gracia, Samantha, Jane, Samuel, Eber and Hooker. Dilazon married a sister of William Clark and has one son, Frederic, who married Miss Crofton and resides in Woodbridge.

Harley Hotchkiss married a Buckingham. His son Andrew was a fine school teacher. His house was burned and his mother and younger daughter were consumed in the flames, another sad calamity of that nature which gives a shock to the entire town.

Stephen Hotchkiss lived near the Harry French place, where Jared built a new house later, and married Amy French, daughter of Asaph. His widow still resides there, past ninety years of age, and said to be quite active. George Hotchkiss lived east of the center. He married Miss Sperry. One son, Erban, lives in New Haven and married Elizabeth Crabtree. Their two daughters were teachers and are married to professors in Massachusetts.



THE GEORGE HOTCHKISS HOUSE.

INTERESTING NOTES

REGARDING THE OLD TOWN OF BETHANY.

(Published in the *New Haven Journal and Courier* in 1901, without signature.)

As one driving from New Haven, through Bethany, over what is termed the "Center" or "Upper road," comes to the Episcopal and Congregational churches, which, standing upon high ground, are quite conspicuous, and which are, with the postoffice and Perry's Hall, objects that particularly serve to determine the "Center" of the small town of Bethany, he is apt to notice the freshness and purity of the air; the peaceful serenity which rests upon the rural community; the varied and beautiful landscape; the lowing of the cattle, "as the plowman homeward plods his weary way," and if he chances to look behind him, the fine view to be had of Long Island and the Sound. That these things are noticeable is due to the fact that, being situated up among the hills where the streams have their source, but little water power has been available, and so the place has escaped the noise and confusion, the pollution of the air and the water which are attendant upon the establishment of large manufactories, which, although of great benefit to a community, tend in many cases to lower the moral and intellectual status of a neighborhood, and to detract from it in the eyes of those who might otherwise desire to reside in it.

That the hills of Bethany are not already dotted with more summer homes owned by residents of New Haven is unquestionably due to the fact that in the past poor roads and no convenient railroad facilities have been discouraging factors, together with the limited knowledge thus afforded of the beautiful hills and magnificent views to be had from some of them. This obstacle is already being overcome in a marked degree by the availing of the town, and also by the sister town of Woodbridge, of the state law, by which the roads leading from New Haven to the Woodbridge and Bethany hills are being improved.

If the traveler goes north from the churches about one-eighth of a mile he will come to a large and somewhat weather-beaten old house situated on the farther right hand corner, made by the road running between Beacon Falls and Mount Carmel. Unless he is observing by nature, he will see nothing that will particularly attract his attention unless it be the three large chimneys which project above the roof and which, with the size of the structure, tend to give it an air of majesty, or he may note the many old-fashioned windows which dot its sides. But looking closer, he will observe that the cornice, though not prominent nor imposing, but narrow and old-fashioned, shows a degree of workmanship and taste which speaks well for the intellect and pocket-book of its long ago builder. He will notice that the underpinning is of fine cut sandstone, seldom to be found under houses built at the time; and should he chance to pass by when the front door is open on a summer afternoon, he would undoubtedly be surprised to see a large hall extending from front to rear of the main house, with handsome arches overhead.

During the past winter the writer chanced to call at this old homestead and was struck with a sense of its almost ancient grandeur, for it seems to have been what in its day might have been called an "elegant residence." Ever since he has had a feeling of desire to know about it and its history, and recently having had an opportunity to look it over from top to bottom and make some inquiries, he gladly availed himself of the opportunity. Knowing the interest which has become general in the last few years respecting things in any way historical or representing the life of our forefathers, the writer takes pleasure in penning these few lines of description of a place which otherwise might in time pass out of existence unnoticed, with the hope that the *Journal and Courier* may consider them of enough interest to the public to reproduce them in print. Among some of the features not already mentioned, the writer was particularly pleased with the south front parlor, which is about fifteen feet square, with two fancy arched alcoves at the back, with a handsome mantel and large fireplace between them. From floor to ceiling throughout the lower part of the house is a distance of over nine feet, and in several rooms the wall near the ceiling is ornamented by a handsome frieze. The writer

calls to mind at least eight large, light, airy rooms besides the main lower hall, upper hall and a dance hall some seventeen feet wide by thirty-six feet long. There are no less than ten large fireplaces. The writer is told that the dance hall has been used for holding church festivals, and for a time the regular town meetings. The older people delight to tell of the socials and dances that they used to attend under its hospitable roof, and it is presumable that not a few New Haven people who



THE LYSIAS BEECHER HOUSE.

read these lines may recall having at some time in their lives shared the pleasures of these past social gatherings.

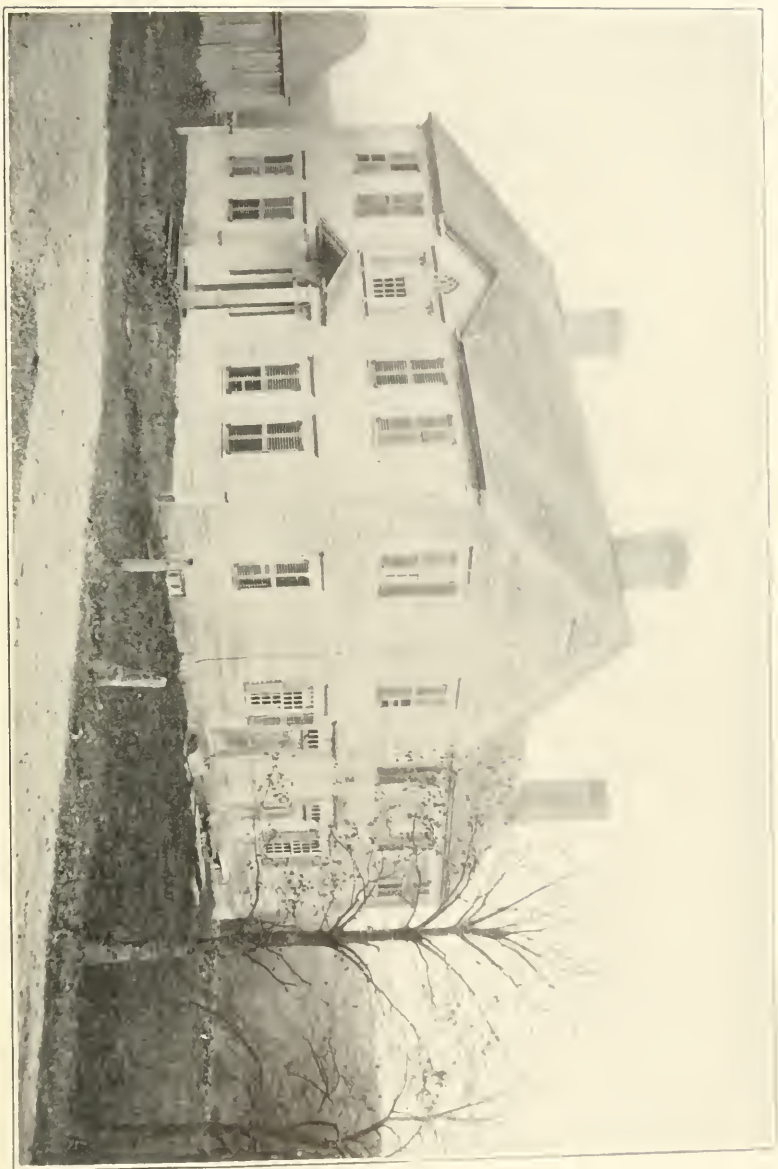
What might be termed a curiosity is situated in the garret, and consists of a commodious brick smoke-house used for smoking hams or beef. It is arranged to be connected by pipe with the kitchen stove and the chimney, thus enabling the accomplishment of curing the pork and beef for the larder without an extra fire or the expenditure of unnecessary labor: a unique example of the idea expressed in the old adage, "Killing two birds with one stone."

It appears that the house was built by one Darius Beecher. The writer is unable to give much information relative to said Beecher other than that he was at the time of building quite wealthy; had two daughters and, if rightly informed, one son; that he went west with his family, lost his fortune and was not much heard from. The place was afterward occupied by one Abram Beecher, who was, however, not related to the builder.



WILLIAM LOUNSBURY.

Later it was owned by Lewis Thomas, who occupied it with his family. Later it became the property of Orrin Wheeler, who occupied it with his family till his death in 1874. His widow, son and unmarried daughters continued to occupy it until the death of Mrs. Wheeler in 1898, and the death of the son in 1899. The Misses Mary and Christina Wheeler still cling to the associations which make the "Old Homestead" dear to them, and remain under the roof which has withstood the storms of the nineteenth century and enters upon the



THE OLD LEWIS THOMAS HOUSE.

twentieth still protecting a framework of massive oak, but little the worse for time and wear, but which must inevitably succumb in time if not given that protection which has so long been afforded it till death and adversity have robbed the hands which would have kept the outside as neat and beautiful as the inside.

The Beecher family in Bethany seem difficult to trace.

They seemed to settle near the center, Lysias near the churches, north. His father, Captain David, lived on the cross-road, east, where he had built a grist mill. Darius built on the corner. One Darius sold to Ebenezer Platt, about 1800, a house west, near Harry French's, and Calvin Beecher built on the main road north, near Lebanon Hill. His widow married Esquire Kimberly, from West Haven. She had seven children and he five. One daughter married Major Lounsbury (son of Elias and Mary Perkins). His son Henry eventually owned the property, and his widow resides in the old home. The Kimberly children were: George, married Saretta Tuttle; Dewitt, married Eliza Lines, daughter of Abel; Charles, married Harriet Sperry, daughter of Enos of Westville; Phoebe, married Dr. Andrew Castle, and Lucretia, unmarried.

On the east, near the turnpike, called the Beecher district, were Andrew, Jessie, David and Beri. Some of the family claim to be descendants of Rev. Dr. Lyman Beecher.

The Lounsbury family were among the early settlers of the town. The first house built on Lebanon Hill was owned by John Lounsbury, son of Timothy, and sold to Jonathan Smith in 17—, and was then very old. Jairus, son of John, had a son, Crownage, who married Samantha Hotchkiss, their son William says. Timothy, on the Beacon Falls road, was a cousin. Newel, William and Abram had homes on that road, which was quite a thoroughfare once.

Eliakim Smith, son of Jonathan of West Haven, built a new house a few rods from the old one, where his daughter Laura taught a school in 1840 called "Lebanon Hill Boarding and Day School for young ladies." She taught French, music, drawing, painting, and other branches, both classical and ornamental. She married William Dickerman of Hamden. His daughter Louise married Mr. Andrews of Chicago, Ill. His daughter Mary married Henry Lounsbury.

The west side of the highway was owned by John Thomas, Esq. His sons were John, Lewis and Allen. One daughter married Rev. Mr. Coleman; the other married Dr. Spencer of Naugatuck, who removed to Bethany and occupied the Thomas homestead in 1847. One cold night in February, on returning from visiting patients, he discovered the house was on fire. He aroused his wife and young child, taking them out of the window, and then rushing about frantically, he aroused the help, two young girls and two young men, who escaped from the windows of the second story. Then, shouting "Where are my boys?" he rushed through the flames up the staircase, and with one son—ages twelve and fourteen—under each arm, as he turned to escape the floor fell in beneath them, while the wife and mother, with a few neighbors, witnessed the appalling scene. The survivors were taken to the home of Mrs. Thomas's son Allen near by, and the whole town was overshadowed with gloom.

Allen Thomas married Miss Gilbert. Children: Mary Ann, Caroline, Nancy, Fanny, Gilbert, Sarah, John, and Frank. They were remarkably bright scholars, but left the town before marriage, and it is said are all in Chicago, Ill., with the most favorable surroundings.

Lewis Thomas owned the Darius Beecher house, which was a wedding gift from his father. He married Miss Peck and the only descendant is Mrs. Andrews of New Haven.

LEBANON HILL.

Lebanon Hill derived its name from a pond or lake surrounded by cedars. The lake covers several acres and is said to be unfathomable with lead and line. It is covered (with the exception of a few rods in circumference which never freezes) with mosses and creeping roots which Mr. Lincoln's Botany describes as "a root that extends horizontally and sends out fibres, which is very tenacious of life, as any part of it containing a joint will grow, its fibres spreading and interlacing themselves, thus rendering a soil more permanent. Holland would be liable to be washed away by the action of water were it not that its coasts are bound together with these creeping plants."



THE OLD KIMBERLY HOUSE.



THE ELAKIM SMITH HOUSE.

inhabitants, with railroad facilities unsurpassed; with an extensive university, whose professors are some of them manifesting their appreciation of the Woodbridge hills by locating there in summer; so accessible to the sea shore that sea food can be obtained readily, etc.

On the west side of the highway are fine broad meadows, but the east side could be so improved by a landscape architect that two or three generations hence it might be called an earthly paradise. This may seem rather premature, the writer not knowing that a foot of the land could be bought for love or money.

The following article appeared in a recent morning paper:

"It is beginning to be understood that one who has consumption may get well without having such distant and expensive air as has been the fashion. For instance, it is now known that Connecticut air is good for Connecticut people who have weak lungs."

The Allen Thomas house, near the slope of the hill, is between the lake and the highway, and the Asahel Judd house at the foot of the slope is still nearer, and a foot path leads to the treacherous mossy enclosure. The next house was built by Reuben Judd where the old road joins the turnpike, and less than a fourth of a mile north was the old Perkins tavern, which was burned in 1903. It is not known who built the old tavern. Perhaps it was Edward Perkins, as he was the proprietor in 1781. He was son of Peter and Mary (Peek) Perkins, son of Peter and Hannah (Lord) Perkins, son of John (wife not known), son of Edward and Elizabeth (Butcher) Perkins, who were married in New Haven, March 20, 1649. Edward P. was born October 25, 1743. He married Mary Thomas, probably daughter of Israel and Martha (Hine) Thomas. Children: Israel, Edward, Mary and Hulda (twins), Electa. He married second, Rosanna Judd. Children: Rosanna and Anna.

He was said to have been a tall, dignified person, in velvet small clothes and snowy stockings, with his jet black hair hanging in a shining queue from under his cocked hat—the very picture of a gentleman of the olden time. There were others in the town at that date who dressed in the same style, Alling Carrington or his father among them.



THE ALLEN THOMAS HOMESTEAD.

Archibald Perkins, who kept the tavern after Edward, was a son of Azariah and Anne (Johnson) Perkins, son of John and Elizabeth (Hayward) Perkins, son of John (whose wife is not known), son of Edward and Elizabeth (Butcher) Perkins, who were married in New Haven, March 20, 1649.—*Connecticut Magazine*.

As Edward Perkins died in 1789, probably he was followed by Archibald, born December, 1758, and married (1) Huldah Woodin, and (2) April 19, 1797, married Sarah Nettleton. He continued as proprietor until his death, March 4, 1842. His son Guy followed, who married a daughter of Jesse Doolittle (a peer among women), and they remained and conducted the hotel until their son Wales, who married Eliza Tolles, succeeded his father for several years. His wife died, leaving one son Homer, and Wales married (2) Miss Clark of Woodbridge, and later removed to Naugatuck.

Betsey, daughter of Guy, married Beecher Hotchkiss, son of Harvey. Children: Clarence, married Miss Doolittle, daughter of Bennett; both deceased, leaving children: Mason, married Mary E. Doolittle, daughter of Lucius; their daughter, Emma D., married Mr. J. H. Taylor of The Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Co., New Haven.

Jane, daughter of Guy, died young, unmarried. DeEtte married Horatio Clark of Prospect. Caroline married Lauren Cook of Cheshire.

The children of Archibald Perkins were Archibald, Abner, Jesse, Burr, Charles.

The "Perkins doughnuts" were so associated with the name of the old tavern, they should be noticed. Mrs. Perkins was a superior cook, but her doughnuts were a specialty. She said she fried two bushels a week, making over one hundred bushels a year. They were round as an orange, and never too short, or too long, or too sweet or too sour. Probably it being such a convenient article of food for a lunch on the road added to the widespread reputation.

Passing the old toll-gate, gone long ago, was the home of Major Lounsbury, son of Elias and Mary (Perkins) Lounsbury. Who built the old red house near we cannot learn, either Perkins or Lounsbury, probably.

Archibald Abner Perkins married a daughter of Ephraim Hotchkiss of Cheshire. Their children were: Elizabeth, Huldah, Sarah, Polly, Ephraim and Benjamin. Elizabeth married Burton Sperry. Huldah and Sarah were teachers in the Lancasterian School in New Haven. Huldah married Rev. Mr. Myers, Congregational; Sarah married George Durrie, portrait painter in New Haven. Polly married Benjamin Bronson of



ARCHIBALD ABNER PERKINS.

From an old Ambrotype.

New Haven, whose daughter Amelia married Henry Johnson, son of Dr. Johnson of Seymour. He kept a popular grocery store on State street.

Esquire Abner Perkins, as he was called, had a tannery near his house seventy years ago and occupied the old red house opposite as a leather store and shoe shop. He was a very enterprising citizen.

The next house north was the home of Israel Perkins, son of Edward, born December 30, 1767, who married Milly Judd,



THE OLD PERKINS TAVERN.

Burnt in 1903.

sister of Rosanna (his stepmother), who were daughters of Isaac, son of Joseph, son of Thomas, son of Thomas, son of Thomas, "who was one of the little band that made their long journey in 1635 through the woods from Massachusetts to the banks of the Connecticut, carrying the wife of their pastor, Rev. Mr. Hooker, in a litter upon their shoulders."

The Tuttle book says: "He began studying for a profession,



MRS. MILLY (JUDD) PERKINS.

Aged 98. From an old Ambrotype.

but his father dying the same year, changed his destiny. He was a selectman, guardian of children, and was familiarly called the old lawyer." His daughter Leonora married Isaac Warren (of Mayflower descent): children were Israel P., William, Harriet, Harris, Isaac, Cornelia, and George. Israel Perkins Warren remained with his grandfather, who gave him an education. He graduated at Yale and was ordained a Congregational minister. Later he received the title of D.D. and

was settled in Boston the latter years of his life. He was the author of religious works and published the "Story of Chauncey Judd, or the Stolen Boy," the particulars of which he received from his grandmother, who, he states, resided with him until her death at the age of ninety-nine.

Harriet married William Canada of New Haven. She is eighty-five years of age and is well preserved, her memory and hearing being good—a very interesting person. Their son is a fur dealer in Chapel street.

The other children of Isaac Warren were highly intellectual and filled high positions in other states, and have many descendants.

The old house which was built by Edward Perkins, and where Israel was born and lived to old age, must have been fine in its day, it was so roomy, with a front lawn several rods deep lined with shade trees. The place was sold about seventy years ago to Dr. Foote of Hamden, who built a house nearly in front of the old one. Within a stone's throw was the old red school house, an old landmark, which is now no more, a new one having been built a little farther south.

Diagonally across from the old schoolhouse was a quaint, roomy old house, where Oliver Hotchkin lived several years. He bought it of Job Terrel, whose widow died at the age of ninety, about 1837. Harpin Hotchkiss bought it later, removed it, and built one more modern. He and his wife are both deceased; their son continues the blacksmith business which his father established, and their two daughters married two brothers, Herbert E. and George R. Doolittle, who have an extensive fish market on Broadway, New Haven.

There was another very old red house a few rods north, which Charles French bought seventy years ago and removed, replacing it with one much smaller. He was a carpenter and wagonmaker, and had one son, Herbert; all deceased without leaving an heir. Turning to the right on the Prospect road, near the top of the road is an old house where Milo Beecher once lived. It would be interesting to know who built it. The next house north was Titus Peck's, son of Samuel², Timothy¹, Samuel³, Joseph², Henry¹. He married Sibyl Nettleton. Children: Mary, Ephraim, Isaac L., Laura A., Titus D. (born 1832). Isaac Nettleton, brother to Sibyl, married Patty Merwin, only one of their children remaining in the town.



REV. ISRAEL PERKINS WARREN, D.D.

Isaac Judd, "the old schoolmaster," brother of Milly (Judd) Perkins, lived on the crossroad to Cheshire, about a half mile east of the schoolhouse. He married Patience Hammond; and indeed she was the personification of patience, for while he was teaching the young idea how to shoot, she was teaching the young girls how to shoot the shuttle, with the warp and the woof of which the lads and lasses would eventually be clad in garments not to be despised, if it was homespun; for, after being dyed and dressed and pressed at the mill, it was nice enough to be worn on any ordinary occasion. Her blankets and table linen, which required four treadles to weave, were valued highly in those days.

She had such a charming way of telling a story that an evening spent in her company was enjoyable; after the twilight had driven her from the loom in the huge garret, where were the wheels and reel and swifts, and the warping bars, as high as one could reach to lay the warp. This required the skill of an expert, especially in plaids or checks, which, after being rolled on the great beam and drawn through reed and gear, and a thread found wrong (which would ruin the whole piece, if not remedied immediately), was enough to try the patience of an angel, but "Aunt Patience" was equal to the task. When she was seated in her high-back easy chair, with her arms akimbo across her checked linsey-woolsey apron, her dear old face beaming with smiles, she would tell tales of the "Revolution," of "Chauncey's capture" (her husband's brother), which she never tired of repeating; and one could fancy that she came from a fairy land as she described the old-time festivities in the grand old ballrooms, the gentlemen in their knee-breeches and ruffled shirt bosoms, with their long hair powdered and curled and quened, etc. And in answer to the question, "How, pray, were the ladies dressed to match with such gay cavaliers?" she would reply, "Oh, they looked just as fine. Some of the wealthiest had silks and laces that were 'brought over' as old heirlooms, and others were dressed in white,—and what is prettier for belle or bride? And the red canlet cloaks they wore, weren't they gay?"

Sometimes she would amuse us with some of "Purdy's pranks," who she said appeared in the neighborhood soon after the War of the Revolution as suddenly as a meteor dropped

from the skies, and any allusion in regard to his former abode was always met with such evasive shrewdness as to settle the question directly.

The house of William Purdy, known as Bill Purdy, the wag, was like a bird's nest. There was a small kitchen, with a smaller bedroom, and the small attic, where the little family of Purdys slept, was reached by a ladder. There were sixteen, including one pair of twins, who were so bright and handsome that they always attracted the attention of strangers, who would ask their name, and the reply, always simultaneously,

"Harley Cone and Harvey Bone,
Clever two men ever known."

brought them many pennies.

Purdy could make a rhyme at short notice, not always poetic, which would cause great mirth and hilarity at the tavern. He had a little garden patch with a few fruit trees, and he always kept a cow on the highway. When he died about 1840 the little Purdys had all found homes in other towns, and when they came to the funeral of their father their mother returned to their home with them. It is said that one of the daughters married a gentleman who was quite distinguished, and the sons held honorable positions.

The land adjoining was known as the Tuttle farm. It extended to the mountain on the east and as far south as the crossroad by the David Perkins place, where there is an elevation commanding a fine view. The tract consisted of several hundred acres. The extreme northeastern part, over 200 acres, was probably Nathaniel's, and sold to Abraham Marks and his brother-in-law, Samuel Merwin of Milford, when Nathaniel removed to the State of New York, and his brother Uri had settled on the other portion.

Uri³ Tuttle was born in Hamden, Conn., September 8, 1738, son of Nathaniel⁴, Nathaniel³, Jonathan², William¹, who was born in England, and settled in New Haven in 1630. He was married in Bethany, December 5, 1764, by Rev. Stephen Hawley to Thankful Ives of Hamden, daughter of Jonathan⁴, Samuel³, Joseph², William¹, who was born in England, and one of the first settlers of New Haven. Children:

1. Jeremiah, married Sarah Crittenden. Children: Sally and Charles, twins, born October 11, 1789. Charles removed to New York State and married Ruth Jones. Children: Emily, Delos, LeRoy, Melinda, Calista, Jared, Alma, Jennette, and Julia, who married Dr. John Curtis. Melinda married her cousin, Edwin A. Tuttle of Bethany. LeRoy married Adelaide Merry and removed west. He was a banker and broker. Later he was employed in Washington, D. C., as Assistant Treasurer in the



THE OLD URI TUTTLE HOUSE, SOUTH VIEW

United States Treasury. After fourteen years in the service he resigned at the same time with General Spinner. He died in 1858, leaving one son, LeRoy. Alma married Abram Zoller. Their daughter Jessie graduated at Vassar College in 1880.

2. Amasa, married Esther Tolles, daughter of Ezeas and Sibel Bellamy. Children: Sarah Bellamy, who married Elisham Smith; son Henry¹, married Elizabeth Bradley and removed to Illinois; three children; daughter Laura, married William Dickerman of Hamden. Their daughter Cora married Ro-

Clarence Colten. After his decease she married Rev. Samuel D. Paine of Florida. Esther Tolles², married Levi Merwin Marks. Children: Mary E., Minerva C., David B., Amasa A., Eliza Jennette. Amasa A. married Lucy A. Platt and removed to New York, where he has been engaged in the manufacture of artificial limbs in Broadway, New York, over fifty years. He has the sword and gun which was his grandfather's, Amasa Tuttle's, when he was captain of the militia company in Bethany.



THE OLD URI TUTTLE HOUSE, NORTH VIEW.

3. Uri, burned to death, aged four.
4. Chauncey, married Mrs. Elizabeth Peck.
5. Mary, married Jonah Todd. There are many descendants. Three grandsons were jewelers in Broadway, New York, many years.
6. Uri, married Electa Perkins, daughter of Edward⁵.
7. Elam, married Mary Scofield; went west.
8. Benajah, went to State of New York.
9. James Seymour, married Sarah Gilbert of Hamden, who was a descendant of Matthew Gilbert, one of the seven pillars

of the first church, and Deputy Governor of the New Haven Colony for seven years.

10. Calvin, married Sylvia Smith; six children, bright and much respected, all deceased, leaving no heirs.

James Seymour learned the trade of axe-making, was an expert, and his axes commanded a widespread reputation. He



SEYMOUR TUTTLE.

located on the turnpike and his blacksmith shop stood at the fork of the roads which led to Waterbury.

"As great Pythagoras of yore,
Standing beside the blacksmith's door
And hewing the hammers, as they smote
The anvils with a different note,
Stole from the varying tones; that hung
Vibrant on every iron tongue,
The secret of the sounding wire,
And formed the seven chorded lyre."—*Longfellow*.

Although Mr. Tuttle was not a linguist like his kinsman, Elihu Burritt, "the Learned Blacksmith," he was passionately fond of music. He built a room in his house with an arched ceiling, which was appreciated by musicians in that vicinity. As it was opposite his shop, sometimes a young man "who had an axe to grind" would make it convenient to attend a musicale or rehearsal in the evening.



MISS JENNETTE TUTTLE.

Mr. Tuttle had six daughters, all singers.

"Well might he gaze upon them for they were fair and tall,
Ye never have seen fairer in bower nor yet in hall,
Small marvel if the gallant's heart beat quicker in his breast,
'Twas hard to choose and hard to lose, how might he win the best."

Eliza, the eldest, married Samuel Davidson of Wallingford. Their son, S. Gilbert, removed to Bethany after his father's decease. He married Sarah Jane Green, who was a Mayflower descendant, and their son Tyler married Miss Scranton, who



THE CHANCERY TUTTLE HOUSE.
Over 100 years old.

was also a descendant of the Mayflower, and their three children are beautiful to look upon.

Sylvia married George Peck (son of George, Esq.), who removed to New Haven. His fine tenor voice, while he sang in the choir of the First Methodist Church, is still referred to with pleasure by some of the old members. He was a man greatly respected. One son was killed during the Civil War. Another died later. The only surviving son is General Henry S. Peck of Chapel street, New Haven.

Sariette married George Kimberly of Bethany, who removed to Westville and kept a grocery store several years.

Juliana married Elizur Bradley, son of Joseph. He removed to Orange, was a wood dealer, and left a good estate.

Charry married Noyes Wheeler, a descendant of Moses Wheeler of Stratford, who was born in England in 1598 and died at the age of one hundred. Mr. Wheeler was an influential farmer of Bethany. One daughter, Jenny, survives.

Jennett, the youngest, remains at the homestead and has sung in the choir of the Episcopal Church seventy years, with the exception of a few years when she was organist. She still sings in the "choir," at the age of eighty-two. She is still active in society and in the household (1905).

One son, Charles, was also a singer. He married Miss Bishop of Wallingford. Their only son Seymour married Sarah Atwater, daughter of Rev. Mr. Atwater, pastor of the Episcopal Church in Bethany at that date. He went west and died young. Sarah, the only daughter, married Mr. Maginn, an enterprising and thrifty farmer. Their son resides at the old Chauncey Tuttle homestead, near the Methodist Church.

Seymour Tuttle sang in the Episcopal Church choir until a week before his death, at the age of 77. On Saturday, while he was very ill, a member of the choir called upon him and said, "We shall miss you in the choir to-morrow," when he replied, "While you are singing in church I shall be singing with the angels in heaven." And, truly, during the morning services at church his spirit fled to realms unknown.

The music of the Christmas bells made him supremely happy as he and Esquire Abner Perkins stood up in the front seat of the gallery. Who remembers the merry Christmas of those days, when the church was illuminated with candles, one to

each pane of glass; the ramble in the woods to gather the hemlock, the laurel and feathery pine, which nimble fingers in fragrant garlands twined, "to beautify the place of the sanctuary?" The music, the Christmas anthems, the solos, the chorus, the Hallee, Hallelujah, so uplifting that one only had to close their eyes to feel that they were lifted to the skies.

Leonard Todd was born in Bethany, November 8, 1800. He was son of Ely⁶, Jonah⁵, Stephen⁴, Samuel³, Sannell², Christopher¹, who came from England and settled in New Haven in 1694. Leonard⁷ married Julia B. Bradley, daughter of Elam Bradley of Hamden. They celebrated their golden wedding. He died in 1876. His widow lived to the age of ninety-eight. Their children were: Grace, who married, as second wife, Rev. F. B. Woodward; Emily, married Isaac Perkins, son of Enos; Margaret, married Chauncey T. Beecher, son of Lysias; Celia, married Wales F. Dickerman; Street B., married Sarah A. Hotchkiss, daughter of Spencer; Dwight E., married Mrs. Kate E. (Sperry) Bishop, daughter of Enos Sperry, and Jasper B., married Mary A., daughter of Rev. Martin Moody. Street B. represented the town in the Legislature in 1880. Jasper B. was selectman in 1888-89. He is a warden in the Episcopal Church.

The Carrington family is one of great antiquity. Sir Michael Carrington, who was a standard-bearer to Richard I., was the first of whom any records have been found. His grandson, Sir William Carrington, was an officer under Edward I., 1272-1307. Sir Edward Carrington was an officer under Edward II., 1307-1327. A long list of titles—sirs, barons and viscounts—follow down to 1706.

The first of this name at New Haven on record is Dr. Peter Carrington, who appears to have been a prominent physician. He married Anna, daughter of William Wilmot. His son John, born July 10, 1692, married Deborah (Thomas), widow of Abraham Hotchkiss, as early as the year 1732. Their son Abraham, according to the records of Center Church, New Haven, was baptized Nov. 11, 1733. The records of the Congregational Church of Woodbridge state that he married Rebecca Johnson November 15, 1756. The records of Connecticut men in the War of the Revolution, "Abraham Carrington commands guards at Milford in 1781." His estate was



Mrs. Celia Dickerman.

Mrs. Fanny Davis.

Mrs. Leonard Todd—Five Generations.

Wales Davis.

George Davis.

settled June 5, 1799. His widow was living in 1808. Their son, Alling Carrington, was born in Woodbridge in 1757. He married Huldah Perkins December 24, 1781. She died September 20, 1803, leaving one son, Nehemiah. He married as second wife, Nancy, daughter of Oliver Atwood, October 3, 1805. Their children were: Edwin, a physician in Farmington; William, went south, where he resided until his death. He was one of the foremost merchants in Charleston and was beloved by all citizens for his high moral character and pleasant disposition; Henry A. and John Bennett. Alling Carrington died June 4, 1831. His widow married Elihu Sanford and died July 5, 1853, aged seventy-six.

Henry A. Carrington was born in Bethany in 1808. He took the old homestead and remained on the farm. He married in 1832 Samantha Tolles. They had four children: Edward H., married Fanny E. Lounsbury, only child of Newel; Mary S., married Wales H. French; Josephine, married H. W. Beecher, and second married Hagot Bogigian, an Armenian; Justine married Frank L. Coe.

Henry A. Carrington died in 1855. His early death was a loss not only to his family, but to the entire community. He was progressive, a typical farmer, and very enthusiastic on the subject of fruit culture. He would not accept scions from the hands of an itinerant professor in that line, but would procure specimens himself and do the grafting with his own hands. The result is now seen in the choice fruits from his orchards. His house, which was one of the largest of the fine old houses that were destroyed by fire in the town, was discovered on fire one Sunday while members of the family were at church. Mrs. Carrington, who was ill, and her little twin daughters could only save themselves and witness their home burn down, with all its valuable contents.

Mr. Carrington built another on the same site, of a different style, which later, when occupied by Mrs. Coe, was discovered to be on fire. She rushed to the telephone in time to call neighbors, who assisted in saving many things of value, but the house was destroyed.

A singular coincidence was in the burning of the home of her twin sister, who resided near Boston, the same year, the loss being estimated at twenty-five thousand dollars.

John Bennett Carrington, son of Alling, was born November 6, 1811. He married Harriet, daughter of Roswell and Nancy (Hayes) Trowbridge, September 12, 1838. He died February 12, 1881. He was best known to the public through his long and prominent connection with the press of New Haven. After a number of years of study, starting when a mere lad, and the editing and publishing of various publications, he began the publication of the *New Haven Daily Herald* November 28, 1832, which later, through consolidation, became the *Journal and Courier*, and which to-day is published under the name of the Carrington Publishing Company, his son, John B. Carrington, being the president of the company.

Paragraphs copied from a lengthy obituary notice in the *New Haven Register*:

"The death of Mr. Carrington leaves a void in business circles, and there will be much casting about for some one to fill the places of responsibility and trust with which he had been burdened."

"His trip through Europe, less than ten years ago, led to a series of letters, elegant in diction and comprehensive in spirit, which were admissible as specimens of epistolary work."

"Mr. Carrington was in some respects a representative man, for he illustrated in his person the principle of devotion to work and constant industry, which must always lead to success in every pursuit."

"As a husband and father the deceased was everything estimable in human nature."

"He will be missed everywhere and by all classes of people."

Theophilus Smith, son of Nathaniel and Catherine (Miles) daughter of Theophilus, was a direct descendant of Richard Miles, whose name is on the Memorial Bridge at Milford. He was born in Milford, where he taught school previous to his removal to Bethany. He was a man of commanding presence and entertained guests in the most courteous manner. After the decease of his wife, who left three children, Edwin, Giles, and Mary, he married a daughter of Lysias Beecher, who died, leaving a daughter, Elizabeth, who married Rev. Edmund Peck. Later he married Eliza, sister of his second wife, and their son lost his life in the late Civil War.



JOHN BENNETT CARRINGTON

He bought the old tavern previous to 1830. It is said to have been built by David Wooding for a hostelry. The front view presented a very imposing appearance. It was three stories; the first was built of a fine sandstone and occupied as a grocery and dry-goods store; the second story extended out on both sides many feet, arranged for the entertainment of travelers. Being located near the fork of the roads, it was equally accessible to the Waterbury road which led through Prospect and the one which led through Naugatuck.



THE WILLIAM WOODING HOUSE.

After the Naugatuck railroad was built the manufacturing companies of Waterbury sent all their freight for New York and New Haven by the railroad, which previously had employed teamsters with two, four and six horses, who would stop over night either at Landlord Smith's or Perkins' taverns; each had their favorites. They had heavy loads both ways, hogsheads of sugar and molasses, etc., for the grocers, and goods for the furniture warehouses. One would be surprised to know what a thoroughfare it was in those days. The stage coach, which is still running tri-weekly, with few passengers, was drawn by four horses.

The travelers at the inns, with their teams, made lively times for the farmers by creating a home market for their produce, their hay and grain. Most families had sons to till the soil and daughters to assist in domestic duties, hence extra help was seldom required.

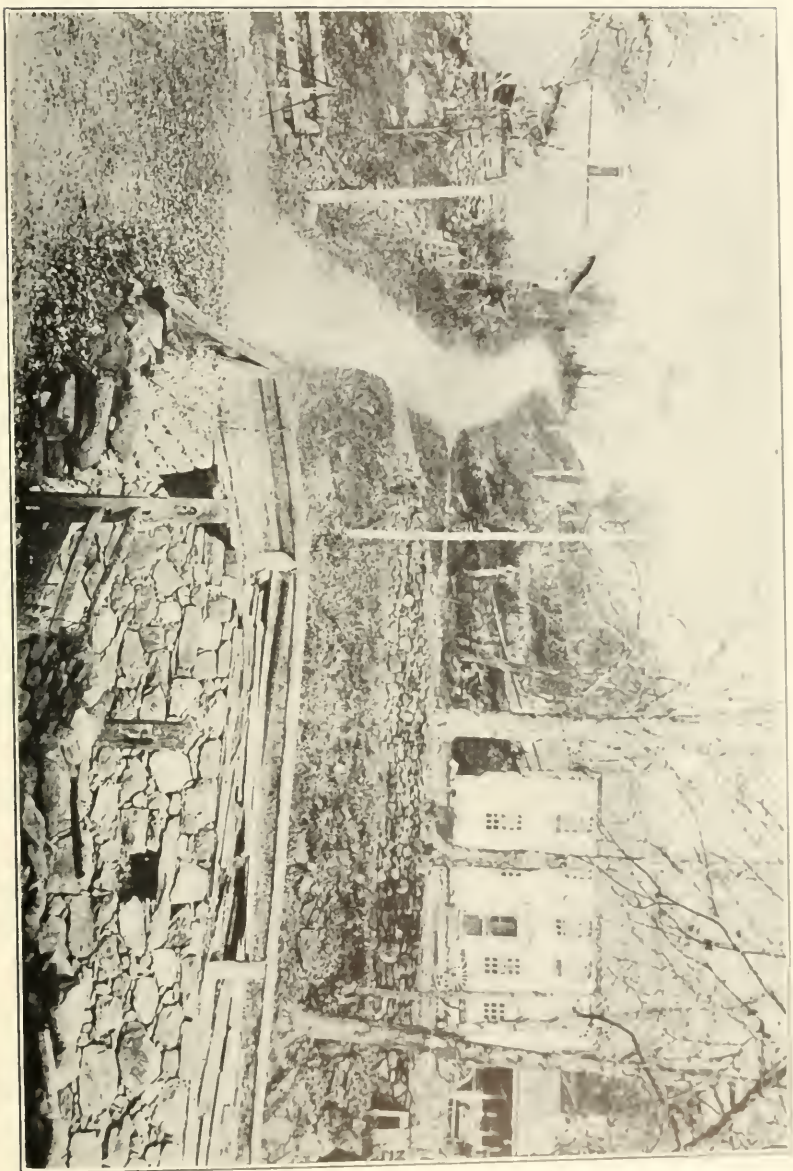
When traffic ceased, Mr. Smith took down the old inn and built a two-story house for a private residence. After his decease his son-in-law, Mr. Peck, and family resided there until



THE HOADLEY MILLS.

it was destroyed by fire in 1902, while Mrs. Peck was visiting her married daughter in Waterbury. The fire was discovered by a neighbor too late to save the lives of Mr. Peck and his daughter Mary, who perished in the flames. The son barely escaped by jumping from the upper story. Again the whole town was shocked by a holocaust.

Rev. Edmund Peck was born in Greenwich, Conn., in 1817, and was descended in a direct line from Rev. Jeremiah Peck, who was one of the twenty-seven purchasers of that portion of the town called Old Greenwich. He was born in England in



THE GARRY HOADLEY HOUSE.

1623, son of Deacon William Peck of the New Haven Colony, 1639. Rev. Jeremiah taught Latin, Greek, Hebrew and oratory in the New Haven Grammar and Colony School (Hopkins) during the year 1660-1661. In 1674 he became the first settled pastor of the first Congregational Church in Greenwich and remained until 1689.

Rev. Edmund preached in the Methodist Church in Bethany sixteen years. He married as second wife, in 1862, Elizabeth



THE HOADLEY MILLS.

B. Smith, daughter of Theophilus Smith. Their children were: Mary E., Laura B. and Charles E.

The property is now owned by the New Haven Water Company.

Edgar L. Wakeman, a noted traveler, said in 1889: "There are hundreds of city hostelrys and wayside inns still standing in which much of the history of our country was formulated, and whose olden guests and activities nursed the later grand development of half a continent. What old England was in motherhood to New England, the latter has been to all our fair

land; and it is a sweet and kindly thing to hold with prizing to the memory mosses of these quaint old entertainment manses of the New England city street and leafy country road."

The Garry Hoadley house on the old road, east of the turn-pike, led past the Esquire Peck house, which is gone and the site is covered by "Bethany Lake."

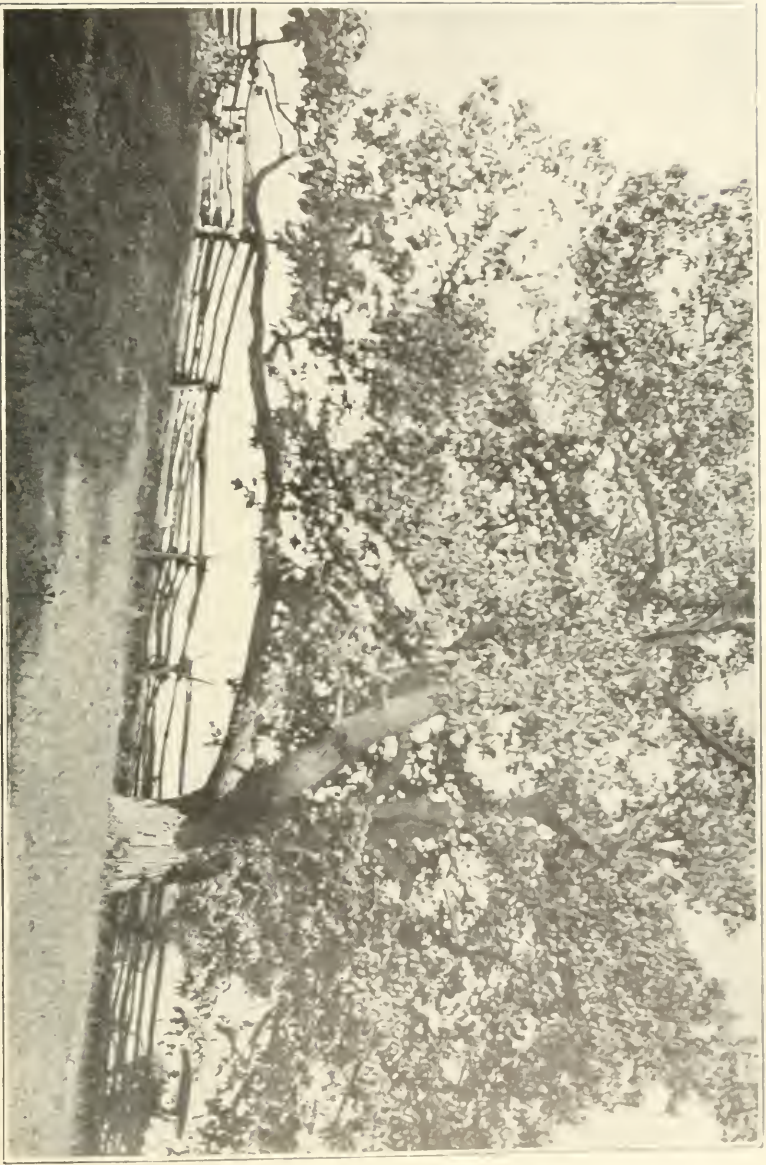
The house and mills across the street opposite were built by Ami Hoadley, who married ————. Children: Ursula, married Isaac Doolittle; Harriet, married William Burnham; Garry, married Lucy Doolittle and remained at the homestead,



THE HOADLEY MILLS AND DAM.

where he conducted the grist mill and saw mill, and others, which was a very thriving business for many years. His son Denzil, who married Ann J. Moakley, succeeded him. His daughter Amanda married Frederic Warner. The mills are all cleared away and the property is owned by the New Haven Water Company.

Lambert Wooding, born in 1825, married Celia A. Boyce in 1865. He was the son of Levi (who married Polly Bradley), son of Elijah, son of John, who may have been son of David who built the "hotel." The family were located on the road running north from the Garry Hoadley place, and known as



AN OLD CHESTNUT TREE NEAR GARRY HODLEY'S.

Wooding Hill. William Wooding lived just south of Garry Hoadley's. His son Charles removed to Cheshire. His daughter Elizabeth married Amasa Brooks and resides in Waterbury.

The Sanford family is of English origin, descended from an ancient Shropshire clan whose founder, Thomas Sanford, a Norman follower of William the Conqueror, is mentioned on the roll of Battle Abbey, October 1, 1066. His son, Sir Thomas, held in the time of King Henry I. the Manor of Rothal and



THE HOADLEY MILLS DAM.

Sandford, and the latter is still in the possession of his descendants. Thomas Sandford came to America in 1631. Ephraim, born 1646; wife, Sarah." There were so many of that name among the first settlers in Bethany it is difficult to trace them.

The first of that name settled in Milford, and later in Woodbridge and Bethany. Archibald Sanford located on the road from Cheshire, near the mountain, and perhaps owned land to the summit, which gave it the name of Mt. Sanford.

Elisha Sanford, son of Elisha, was born in Woodbridge, July 1, 1776. He bought the house in Bethany where his son Henry

resided during his life. (It was built by Isaac Sperry, the first house built on the road after the turnpike was cut through, and later his son Enos built the first house over the line in Bethany.) Henry Sanford married a daughter of Hiram Hotchkiss, and their son Alvin married Emma Keeler of New Haven. Their son Justin H. has been clerk in the office of the purchasing agent of the New Haven Railroad eighteen years and has been promoted from time to time.

Lucretia, daughter of Elisha, married Alvin Perkins, son of David, who married Lowly, daughter of Jonah Todd. Their daughter married Thomas Hull of Westville, whose son Charles has been engaged in the drug business for several years.

Stephen, son of Elisha, had one daughter, who married Rufus Russell, architect, whose son Byron is a Universalist minister, and a daughter married Oscar Dikeman of New Haven. Another daughter of Stephen married a Mr. Champion, whose son is one of the leading florists of New Haven.

It seems fitting to state that I have no pecuniary interest in the town, as the land which was my father's and grandfather's and great-grandfather's has all passed out of the hands of our family. A large share of it is owned by the New Haven Water Company. There is one spot, however, fondly cherished in memory, the spring, the fountain head of the rippling stream which expanded to a river called West River. It is so associated with our school days that it suggests a schoolgirl rhyme.

O, the spring where the crystal waters flow,
Just over the ledge where the sweet ferns grow,
Where we quenched our thirst on a summer's day
In quest of berries just over the way.

And when we went nutting across the brook,
We lingered awhile in the cosey nook,
To listen to the murmur of the stream,
So long, long ago, it seems like a dream.

And when from the orchard over the lane
Our basket of fruit we could not refrain,
The apples so red and yellow, to bring
And rest on the ledge by the crystal spring.



THE HENRY SANFORD HOUSE.
Built by Isaac Sperry.

With the passing of years, three score and ten,
The water still flowing down through the glen,—
To the city it flows, filling the urn,
With crystal water from the faucet's turn.

* * * * *

To the companions of my youth, a loving adieu
If any still linger, as the numbers must be few;
To all readers, at parting, my heart with kindness thrills
With a loving benediction to the dear old "Hills."





MRS. ELIZA J. (MARKS) JONES.

ADDENDA.

As only a limited number of books were bound, a demand for additional copies enables us to correct the erroneous impression that all the old homes are vacant, because the names of the present owners or occupants were not mentioned. A few of them have since been learned, which adds a progressive element much appreciated in the town.

At the Alvan Sperry place is Dwight L. Johnson; at the Dr. Castle and Elihu Sanford the Messrs. Cotter; at the Eliakim Smith's Mr. Hinman; at the Allen Thomas house Mr. Warner; Mr. Downs at the Reuben Judd's; and Dwight Humiston at the Anan Atwater house; and the indications are that the next census taken will show a large increase of the population.

An article published in 1880 states that "within the last six months Bethany has lost four of its oldest citizens, all esteemed men—Levi M. Marks, Lewis Tolles, Enos Sperry and Miles Hitchcock, which makes quite a change in some of the old familiar places."

The *Seymour Record* publishes frequently an account of the condition and progress of the churches and schools in the town of Bethany.

I would add a loving tribute to the memory of my classmates at the Lebanon Hill School, who have passed away.—Emeline and Catherine Woodward, daughters of Rev. F. B. Woodward; Ellen Thomas, who married John B. Hotchkiss; Sarah Lounsbury, who married Judge Nathan Clark; Charlotte Hoadley, who married Harpin Hotchkiss, and Margaret Todd, who married Chauncey Beecher. And now my dearly beloved brother Amasa A. Marks has also passed before me to another sphere. He laid down to sleep on the 10th of July, and never awoke; although he had lived four score years, it is a grief so sad that I can only say,

"I feel like one who treads alone
Some banquet hall deserted"

MRS. ELIZA J. LARKIN.



MRS. MARY SEAVEY NORTHRUP, NINETEEN YEARS
AND HER DESCENDANTS—FIVE GENERATIONS

A BETHANY CENTENARIAN.

Mrs. Mary Sperry Northrop celebrated her one hundredth birthday in West Haven on the 26th, at the home of her son, Charles Northrop. During the course of the day nearly a hundred people, relatives and friends, called to offer congratulations or to bring some little token of remembrance.

Five generations of the family were represented and their pictures were taken.

This remarkable lady was born in Bethany, September 26th, 1805. She was the eldest of a family of eight children of Micah and Patty (Downs) Sperry and is the last surviving member of her family. Her brothers and sisters were: Phinette, married Nehemiah Andrews; Eliza, died young; Maria, died aged 29, unmarried; George, married Mary A. Cables; Mark, married Harriet Elder; Andrew, married Eliza Sackett; Lyman, remained unmarried.

Mrs. Northrop was born in an old house long since torn down, which stood near the present residence of Judge E. N. Clark in Bethany. When she was five years old her father moved over to "Squabble Hill," in the west part of the town, where she lived until December, 1826, when she married Marvin Northrop, a prosperous farmer of Bethany, who built a small house in the south part of the same town, in which she spent the greater part of her life. Her father died in February, 1861, aged 80. He was a shoemaker, and every one knew "Uncle Mike" in those days.

Mrs. Northrop is the sixth in descent from Richard Sperry, her line being as follows: Richard, Ebenezer, Isaac, Isaac 2d, Micah and Mary.

Mrs. Northrop's immediate family, like her father's, was a large one. Eight children blessed the union of Mary Sperry and Marvin Northrop, four of whom are living—Charles Northrop, with whom she resides, is 77 years old and is the eldest of the family; Elizur Northrop of Brooklyn, Marshall Northrop of West Haven and Mrs Sarah Merwin of New Haven, who were all present at her birthday party.

Four of the children have died. John died in 1861, aged 25. Theodore died young. Phinette died young. Delia married David Smith of Woodbridge and died in February, 1904, aged 67, greatly respected and beloved.

Mrs. Northrop resided with Mrs. Smith after breaking up the Bethany home about twenty-five years ago. Since her daughter's death she has resided with her son most of the time. Beside her four children she has seven grandchildren, nine great grandchildren and eight of the fifth generation.

One always notes her cheery smile and genial disposition. Her good-nature has become proverbial, as is vouched by those who care for her. She always has a joke to crack, or a story of "ye olden time" to relate. She has always worked hard, but has never fretted in doing so, which is one of the secrets of longevity. She has worked up till five years ago, when she had a severe attack of the grippe. Since that time she has not done so much work, yet she is seldom idle. It is a common occurrence while visiting her to find her sewing or engaged in reading. She can boast of never having had a pair of glasses fitted to her eyes.

Through life's pathway she has gathered flowers
To lighten and brighten the golden hours;
And scattered them freely everywhere,
Like rays of sunshine in the air.
No haughty frown ever wrinkled her brow,
Ever fair and serene, as it is now.
Her eyes are still bright, and a smile so sweet,
So cheerily always her friends to greet,
Is a pearl without price, a precious gem,
And a crown of glory, a diadem.

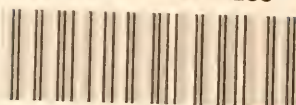
The photographs taken by Myron W. Filley of New Haven are on pages (or opposite) 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 24, 26, 28, 32, 38, 39, 40, 44, 51, 52, 54, 64. Those by George E. Marks of New York, on pages (or opposite) 3, 5, 20, 22, 30, 42, 46, 62; by Ferguson of New Haven, pages (or opposite) 59, 60, 61, 62, 63.



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